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THE SPHERE, FEBRUARY 16, 1952
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The SPHERE

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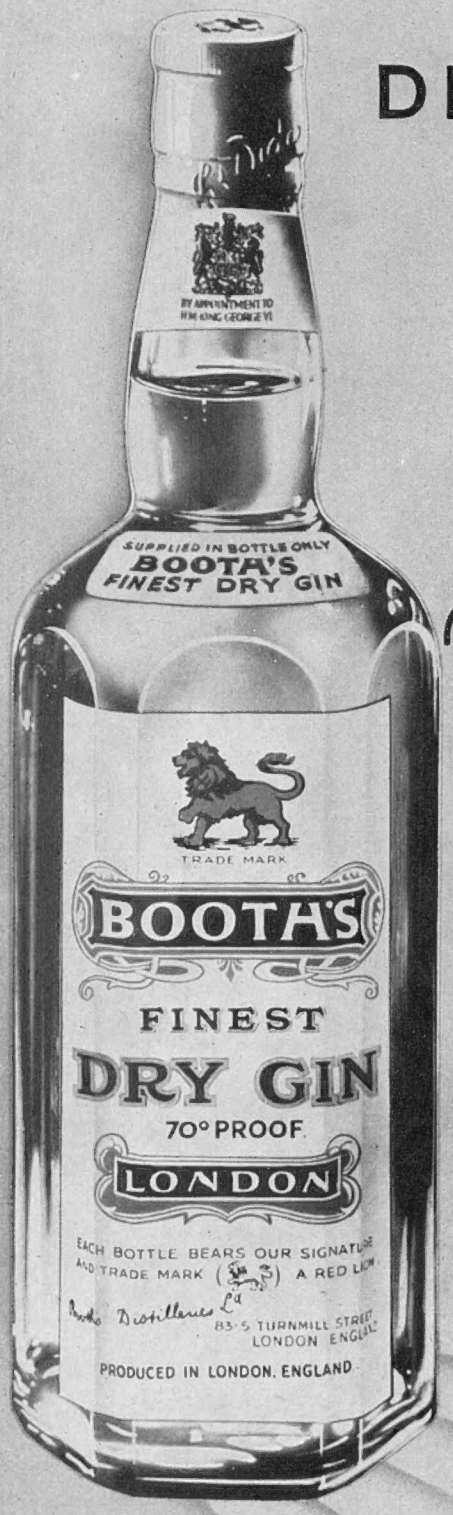

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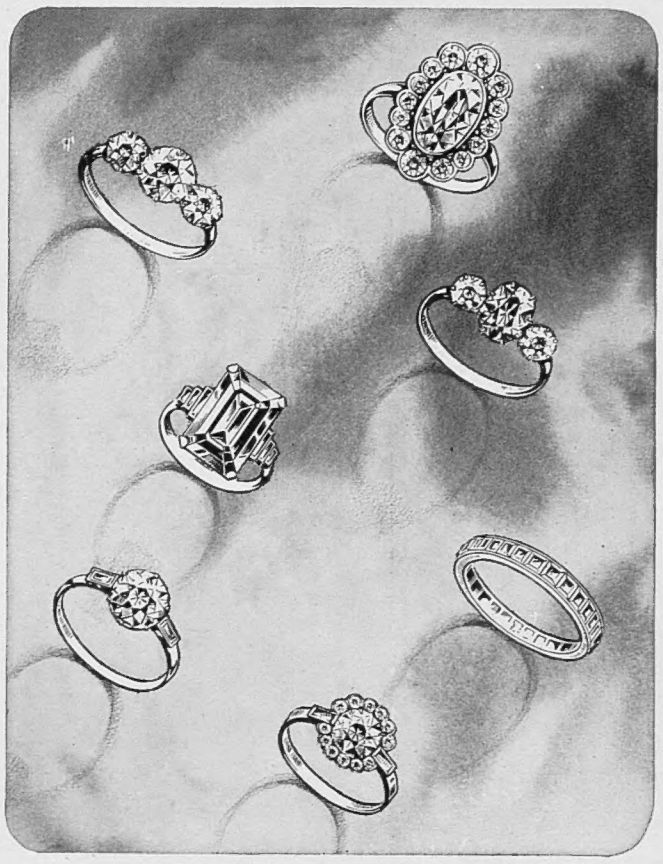

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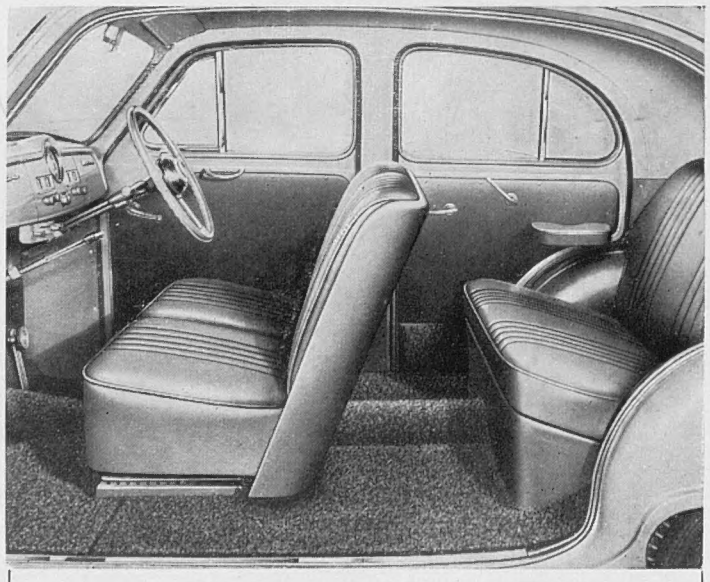

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The SPHERE

THE KING COMES HOME TO HIS CAPITAL—THE COFFIN BEARING THE LAST EARTHLY REMAINS OF KING GEORGE VI IS BORNE ON A GUN-CARRIAGE FROM KING'S CROSS TO THE LYING-IN-STATE IN WESTMINSTER HALL : Great crowds, which had gathered in the morning and waited through the sleet and rain of the early afternoon, saw the gun-carriage pass through the streets, a mounted officer of the Royal Horse Artillery leading the way carrying a naked sword. Beside the gun-carriage were marching Guardsmen, and on the coffin cloaked with the Royal Standard was the Imperial Crown and one wreath, its flowers all in white, the wreath of the Queen Mother. Less than four yards behind the gun-carriage, but not seen in this picture, were the Duke of Edinburgh and the Duke of Gloucester, and they, in turn, were followed by members of the Royal Household.

In Next Week's Issue : A complete pictorial record of the Funeral of King George VI and the Accession of Queen Elizabeth.

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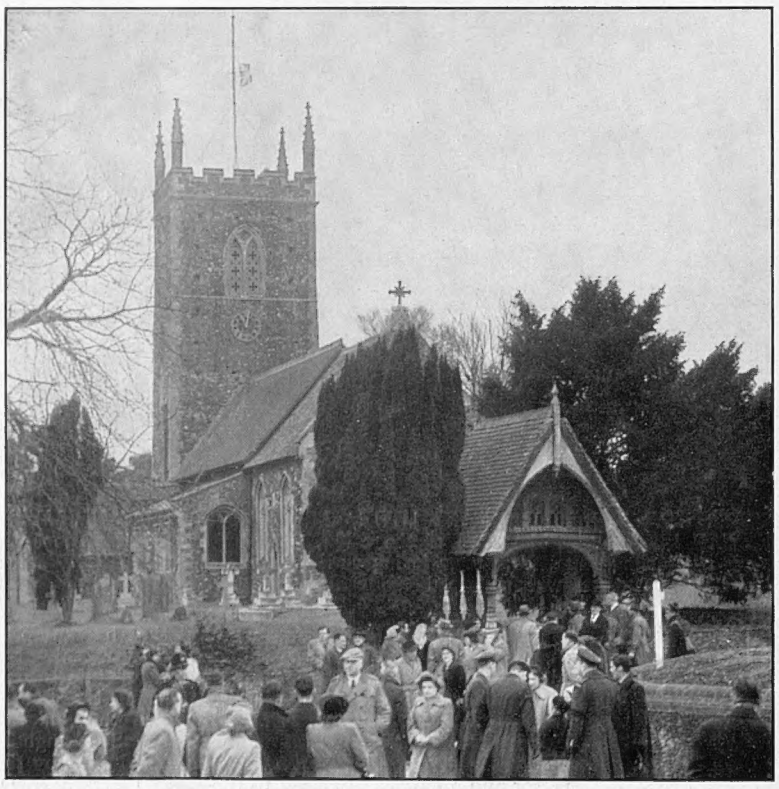
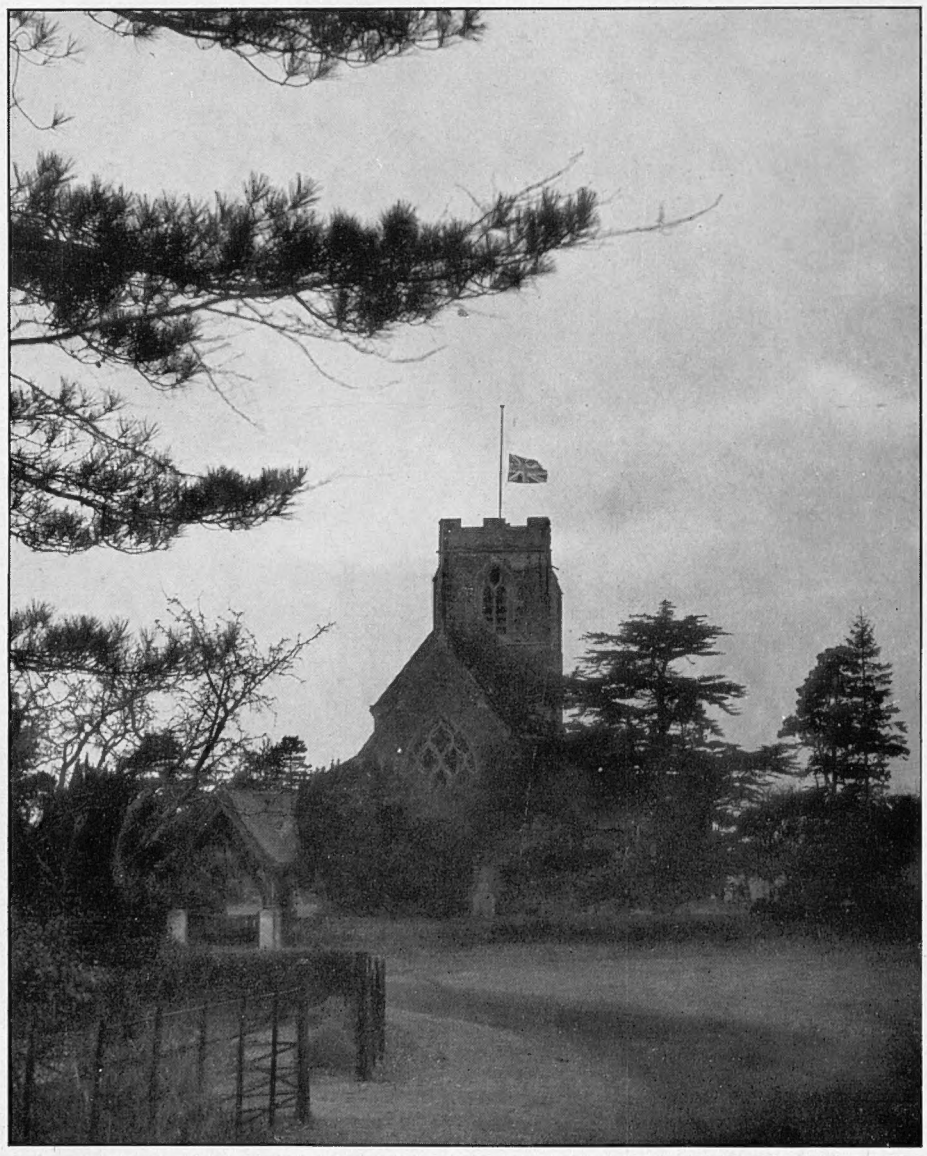
LAST SUNDAY MANY HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE GATHERED DURING THE COURSE OF THE DAY OUTSIDE THE MAIN GATES OF SANDRINGHAM HOUSE : They stood for hours in the bleak weather in the hope of catching a glimpse of members of the Royal family, but they saw nothing. The Queen, the Queen Mother, Princess Margaret and the Duke of Edinburgh had attended Divine Service in the early morning at the Church of St. Mary Magdalene, but they did not leave Sandringham House again that day.

NORFOLK'S VILLAGES OF MOURNING

The Week-end at Sandringham, West Newton and Wolferton





AT THE NEIGHBOURING CHURCHES OF WEST NEWTON AND WOLFERTON, WHERE MANY OF THE ESTATE WORKERS GATHERED TO PAY HOMAGE TO THE SQUIRE OF SANDRINGHAM ON THE SUNDAY AFTER HIS DEATH : *Left*—West Newton Church, which lies about a mile and a half from Sandringham House. Many people gathered there in the belief that the Queen would attend service. Several members of her staff did in fact attend. *Right*—Wolferton Parish Church, with its flag at half-mast. Wolferton is about 3 miles from Sandringham House. The rector was recently invested by the King with the insignia of the C.V.O.

THE JOURNEY TO WOLFERTON: The gun-carriage bearing King George's coffin, and followed by the Dukes of Edinburgh and Gloucester, passing on its way from Sandringham House to Wolferton last Monday morning, when it was entrained for London. *Inset on right*—THE QUEEN TRAVELS BY CAR IN THE FUNERAL PROCESSION: Her Majesty heavily veiled during the drive to Wolferton.

LEAVING SANDRINGHAM FOR THE LAST TIME

The Funeral Procession Through the Norfolk Lanes to Wolferton

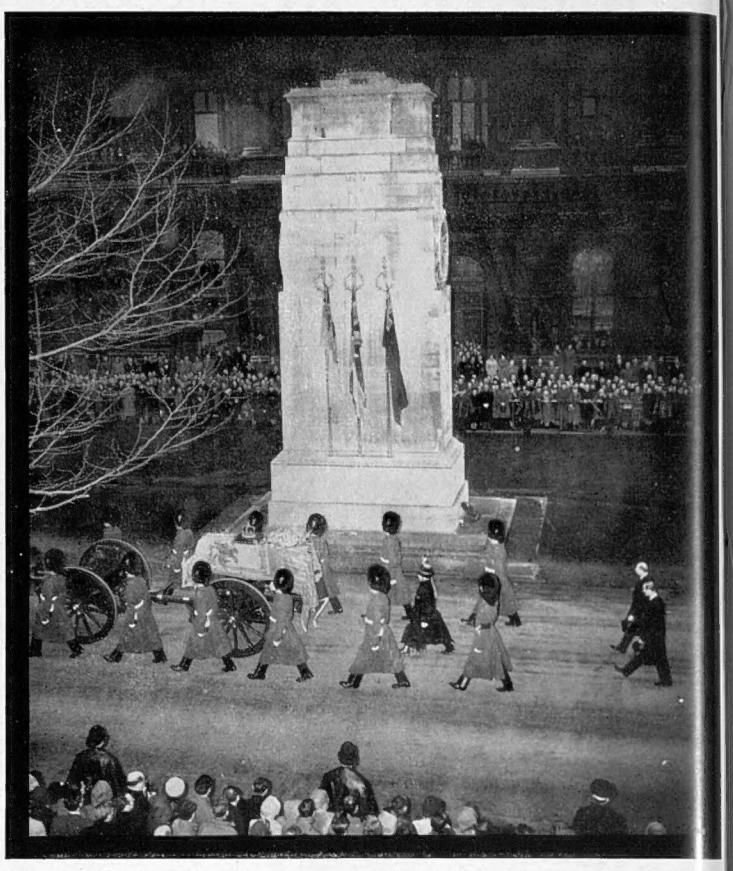
On Monday morning the lying-in-state of King George VI in the Church of St. Mary Magdalene at Sandringham came to an end. It was the last day, too, of the intimate mourning of the people of the Sandringham Estate for the beloved figure who had so recently been striding among them in the woodlands and in the fields. To the slow, solemn music of the *Nunc dimittis* the coffin was borne down the aisle of the village church on the shoulders of the Grenadiers, and through the south door out into the wintry sunshine. As the church clock began to strike eleven came the first faint note of the pipes—a Scottish lament played by Pipe-Major Macdonald—and at that moment the King's last earthly remains started on the journey, first to Wolferton then to London.

LOOKING THEIR LAST ON THEIR KING AND THEIR BELOVED SQUIRE: Crowds lining the route from Sandringham House to Wolferton Station. Many of them were the tenants of the Sandringham Estate, but others had driven from near and far across the Norfolk countryside to pay homage. It took the cortège an hour to reach Wolferton. The formalities there were brief, and within a few minutes the Royal train, bearing the coffin and the Royal mourners, was on its way to London.

THE SORROWING

THE FUNERAL CORTEGE CROSS TO THE LYING-IN-

AT KING'S CROSS THE COFFIN IS TAKEN FROM THE TRAIN IN THE PRESENCE OF THE ROYAL FAMILY: Carrying the coffin are men of the King's Company, Grenadier Guards. On the coffin lies the Imperial State Crown and the wreath from the Queen Mother. Standing in the foreground the deeply-veiled figures are those of Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret.



THE CORTEGE PASSES THE CENOTAPH, THE MEMORIAL OF TWO WORLD WARS, IN BOTH OF WHICH KING GEORGE VI PLAYED HIS PART: The Duke of Edinburgh and the Duke of Gloucester followed the gun-carriage through the sorrowing streets of London, streets that were lined six deep by hushed thousands. The Queen, the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret travelled to Westminster by car, and, accompanied by the Queen Dowager, they arrived at Westminster Hall for the private service shortly before the cortege.

THE CORTEGE SETS OUT FROM KING'S CROSS: There was little talking among the crowd before the gun-carriage appeared, and when it was passing there was silence, save for the noise of the horses' feet and the sound of the gun-carriage wheels. In the distance might perhaps be heard the sound of a motor-cycle engine as one of the mobile police went ahead. Behind the Duke of Edinburgh and the Duke of Gloucester in the procession walked the members of the Royal Household who had served the late King.

CAPITAL CITY

ON ITS WAY FROM KING'S STATE AT WESTMINSTER

PASSING SOUTH AFRICA HOUSE, ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF TRAFALGAR SQUARE, IN THE CLOSING STAGES OF THE JOURNEY THROUGH THE HEART OF LONDON : This overhead view shows the gun-carriage just after passing Charing Cross, not far from the point where Queen Elizabeth had been proclaimed by one of the Kings-of-Arms on the Friday before. During the later stages of the journey through London the weather improved somewhat, but it was none the less an exacting journey for those who had to walk in the procession.

THE THREE QUEENS AWAIT THE ARRIVAL OF THE FUNERAL PROCESSION AT THE PALACE OF WESTMINSTER : Queen Elizabeth, the Dowager Queen Mary, the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret, who journeyed separately to Westminster Hall. On arrival, the coffin was mounted upon a catafalque 4 ft. high in the centre of the Hall, and then a short private service was held.

THE FUNERAL PROCESSION ENTERS THE GATES OF THE PALACE OF WESTMINSTER AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE JOURNEY FROM SANDRINGHAM—THE PRELUDE TO THE LYING-IN-STATE OF KING GEORGE VI : This home-coming of King George VI to his capital followed in nearly every particular the return to London of the last earthly remains of his father, King George V, who had died at Sandringham sixteen years before him. In that procession had walked King George VI and his brothers.

"THIS MY PALACE OF WESTMINSTER IN THE MIGHTY HEART OF OUR EMPIRE": The coffin standing upon the purple catafalque, with its tall oak candlesticks at each corner, after it had been brought from Sandringham to the lying-in-state in Westminster Hall. The coffin was received by Dr. Garbett, Archbishop of York, after it had been borne in on the stalwart shoulders of eight men of The King's Company of The Grenadier Guards.

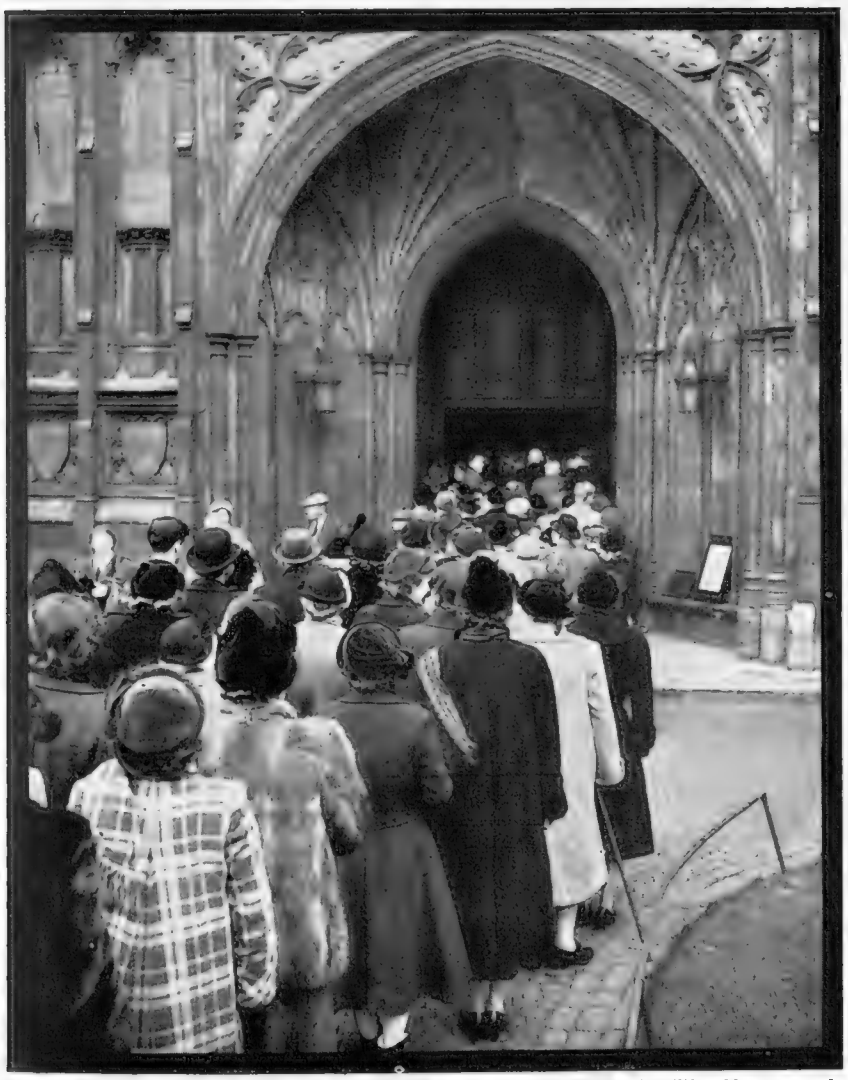
KING GEORGE'S LYING-IN-STATE

The Coffin Resting on the Purple Catafalque in the Great Hall of the Palace of Westminster

Here in this ancient hall, where his father had lain in state before him, King George VI this week received the tribute of mourning, homage and thanksgiving of his people. From 8 a.m. each day the crowds were admitted to the Hall, filing reverently by the catafalque on which stood the Crown, the Sceptre and the Orb. The wreaths of members of the Royal Family stood at the base of the catafalque, save for one, the Queen-Mother's, which stood upon the coffin. At each corner of the catafalque were the motionless figures of officers of the Life Guards, and at the foot of the steps were the Yeomen Warders. It was only fitting that the King should lie in state here in this place of historic associations, where some 670 years ago the knights of the shires and the burgesses sat for the first time with the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and where in the intervening years dramatic events have taken place that have vitally affected the course of English history.

THE GREAT SERVICE OF COMMEMORATION AT ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, A FOCAL-POINT OF THE NATION'S MOURNING: *Left*—Dr. Wand, Bishop of London, preaching in the Cathedral during the commemorative service, one of many which were held throughout the land. *Right*—Members of the congregation at prayer in the Cathedral. Dr. Wand told his vast congregation that the country mourned the passing of a gallant gentleman and a great King. "From the moment of his accession," said the Bishop, "it was realised that here was one who had taken upon himself an immense burden for the sake of others. I have little doubt that the historian of the future will regard the influence of George VI as one of the great steadying factors in the moral history of the twentieth century."

LONDON'S SUNDAY OF MOURNING AFTER THE KING'S PASSING



THE CROWD WHICH WAITED FOR ADMISSION TO WESTMINSTER ABBEY: Many people had to stand in the aisles, so crowded was the Abbey. Everywhere the dominant tones were black and grey. The Archbishop of York delivered the sermon at this service. He said that the prayers for a long reign made at the time of the Coronation had not been answered, but the prayer that King George might faithfully discharge his great responsibilities had been abundantly answered.

THE ROMAN CATHOLICS OF LONDON FORGATHERED AT WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL TO PAY HOMAGE TO THE LATE KING: This was the scene in the Cathedral during the evening memorial service. Cardinal Griffin, in a broadcast devotional talk entitled, "Thoughts on the Death of the King," said that it was typical of the late King George that he was pictured most with his wife and children—more often as the centre of a family group than as a majestic figure in robes.

THE FIRST ASSUMPTION OF ROYAL RESPONSIBILITIES : Prince Albert, as a young naval officer, driving through London in 1916 with the Crown Prince of Serbia, who was later to rule over the new nation of Yugoslavia, which emerged from the Peace Treaty.

THE KING WITH THE HOME FLEET IN 1943 : The King seen on the bridge of H.M.S. *Onslow* with Captain J. A. McCoy. The *Onslow* took the King out to the flagship *Duke of York*, and in this battleship, his Majesty then led the Home Fleet to sea for battle practice.

THE KING IN NORTH AFRICA IN 1943 : The King seen leaving a Royal Naval canteen, a former warehouse on the Algiers water-front, in company with Admiral Sir Andrew Cunningham.

GEORGE VI—THE MAN:

A Personal Record of the Sailor King and

AN APPRECIATION

MORE than most men, King George VI, by sheer grit and application, supplemented the education which the experiences and chances of human life give to every man.

He was born on a day of mourning in Queen Victoria's calendar—December 14, 1895. He was known to his family as Bertie, and he enjoyed a happy childhood, free from formality, but perhaps more strictly disciplined than his father's. If, under Mr. Hansell, he showed no particular interest in any branch of higher education, he came in time to be perhaps better educated than his father. He had a head for figures and was always interested in mechanics. He rose to the normal standard for boys of the upper class, and his country life at Sandringham and Balmoral gave him, as they gave his father, a strong devotion to Sandringham and to sport—in particular, shooting and stalking—and a useful knowledge of country lore.

His father's notions of family discipline were ill-suited to give confidence to a nervous and diffident boy. A tendency to stammer was not relieved by the chaff and criticism with which his father, fearful of back-sliding, sought to direct his sons until the three younger, in their choice of wives, removed his fears. In Prince Albert's case, there was no cause at all for parental anxiety, unless on the score of health.

He passed through Osborne and Dartmouth at the usual ages and kept some terms at Trinity, Cambridge. Three years a midshipman and seven a lieutenant, he served in the Grand Fleet in World War I and was present at the Battle of Jutland. Later he joined the staff of the Independent Force, R.A.F. In June 1920 he was created Duke of York. On April 26, 1923, he married Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon. The marriage was a turning-point in his career. It gave him the perfect partner with whom to share the dizzy responsibility which was to come so unexpectedly upon him. They were mutually complementary and truly shared the Throne. It brought him also closer to his father than he had found himself since his childhood, and brought him increasing self-confidence.

He had seen something of the Empire during his Naval service, and with the Duchess, after an informal visit to East Africa in 1924, carried out an important tour to Australia to open Parliament at Canberra in 1927. On his return, he assiduously identified himself with industrial welfare and with youth organisations, year after year attending the boys' camps which bore his name. With the Duchess he visited factories and welfare centres, always gaining knowledge of social conditions and with it an ever-broadening humanity and sympathy.

He ascended the Throne on December 11, 1936, on the abdication of his elder brother, King Edward VIII. He was crowned in Westminster Abbey on May 12, 1937, amid scenes of pageantry which even then seemed to contrast too sharply with the perils of the hour.

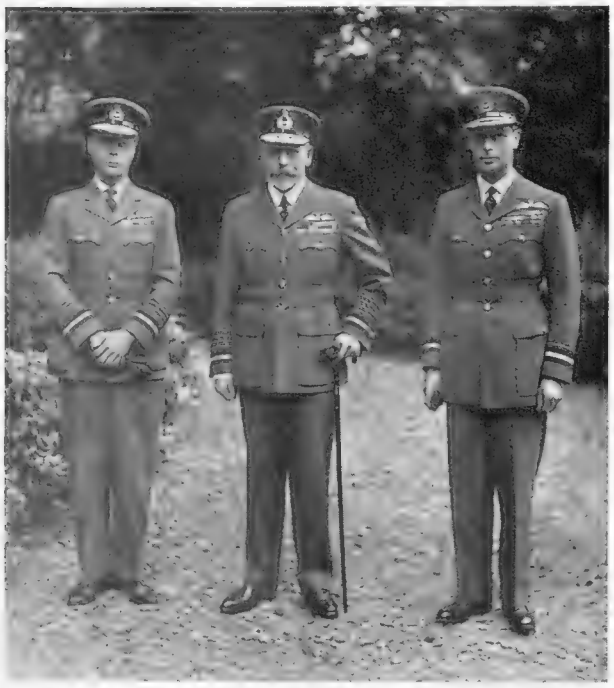
His career and reign had obvious parallels with his father's. Each was educated without expectation of succeeding to the Throne and each entered the Navy as a career. Each succeeded to the Throne little known to, and underrated by, the public and politicians of his day and in times of peculiar difficulty. Like his father, he was soon leading the nation in a World War.

The influence of the new Court, young and admirably chosen, quickly began to permeate the wider circle of Society, which during the years between wars had markedly relaxed its standards of conduct.

The new King was kept busy with the ceremonial attendant upon the Coronation, and there was much extra work connected with the abdication. He and the Queen, as in the previous reign, began as soon as possible a series of Royal tours of industrial areas, and entered on their ceremonial duties with dignity and confidence from the very first.

They paid a State visit to Paris while the King was still convalescent after illness, during the critical summer of 1938. With the grim prospect of another World War looming near, the King began now to visit the fighting Services all over Britain. The outbreak of World War II in September 1939 found him ready. In the course of that year he and the Queen had paid a visit of first importance to the U.S. and Canada. They made friends with President Roosevelt and gave him and many leading Americans and Canadians a new idea of the British monarchy and the British people. All these tours, at home and overseas, built up his character and confidence, and made him the man he became.

Buckingham Palace remained throughout the war the King's headquarters. Sometimes he dined with or visited Mr. Churchill in Downing Street. When bombs fell on the City and the Palace, the King and Queen were among the first to walk amid the ruins. "London



KING GEORGE V AND HIS TWO ELDER SONS, BOTH DESTINED TO BE KINGS, ALL SEEN IN THE UNIFORM OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE : Of the three, King George VI knew the Air Force best, actually entering the Flying Corps in the closing days of the war, when he served on the staffs of Sir Hugh Trenchard and Sir John Salmond. After the war George VI qualified as a pilot.

KING GEORGE VI VISITS THE LONDON HEADQUARTERS OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY : The King paid this visit in December 1949. He is seen examining a Korean Bible.

TROOPING THE COLOUR IN 1949 : The King standing at the salute outside Buckingham Palace while the troops marched by. Although the King's real birthday was in December, the Trooping ceremony on his official birthday took place in June amid the traditional pageantry.

THE KING INSPECTING AN ANTI-AIRCRAFT POSITION ON THE SOUTH COAST DURING THE DAYS OF THE BLITZ: The King is standing behind a height-finder in the command post, accompanied by the Colonel of the Regiment.

FIRING A BREN GUN ON THE PRACTICE RANGES DURING A WARTIME VISIT TO AN ARMS FACTORY: The King is seen using the gun on the special fixed mounting as employed in the early days of the war in infantry work.

ONE OF THE DUTIES INSEPARABLE FROM ROYALTY: The King planting oaks in Windsor Great Park to commemorate work done for the Red Cross by agricultural and allied interests. This picture was taken in 1945 a few months before the end of the war.

GEORGE VI—THE KING

of His Impact Upon the World of His Day

BY JOHN GORE

could take it," and the Royal family took the average Londoner's risks.

World War II left King George VI. in the prime of manhood. His broadcasts grew in strength and authority, and the Queen from the first proved an excellent broadcaster. His regular Christmas broadcasts followed the familiar, family-circle pattern at which his father excelled. Perhaps his announcement to the public of his pleasure in Princess Elizabeth's engagement brought him nearest to his peoples in a family sense.

The King's visits to the North African front in June 1943, and to Italy in July-August 1944, were important and onerous and entailed considerable risks. When the war ended, the King and Queen and Princesses received from the crowds the same genuine tribute which had been accorded to his father and mother.

The death on war service of the Duke of Kent, the appointment of the Duke of Gloucester to Australia and to other missions, had left the King very much alone to cope with the heavy strain of ceremonial. After the war, Princess Elizabeth began to take a full share in such duties as could fall on a Princess. As the years went on, Princess Margaret began to assume appropriate duties, while the Queen's share of the functions of Royalty never ceased to grow in importance, efficiency and grace. The Royal family lived more and more in the public view, the head and inspiration of the nation's family life. His own family life was intensely happy.

King George became soundly versed in affairs of State. With his natural quickness of mind, he was known for his ability to put his finger on the vital issue, and he took infinite pains to acquire a real comprehension of current social, economic and political questions. In conversation his mind moved rapidly, and he would switch with embarrassing speed to a new point or subject. He had his father's courage, good sense, straightness, sense of duty and loyalty to his personal staff, and showed complete impartiality in his dealings with his Governments. It would be difficult to criticise King George's correctitude during the post-war administrations. In those years he lived through difficult and dangerous times of constant anxiety and stress. Never robust, his general health was not equal to the continually increasing burden thrown on him; his sense of duty contributed to the strain and caused him more than once great personal disappointment over the cancellation or postponement of important fixtures as a result of severe illnesses.

In private life he was a charming host wherever the Court might be. Where formality was demanded, the dignity of his race and his pride in tradition gave him the mastery of a difficult art. No doubt he was happiest at Sandringham and Balmoral, and there at least the shyest guest was quickly made happy by the King's simple kindliness and natural tact. He had a keen sense of fun, and pomposity could not live with him, while his genuine interest in a score of simple everyday things, from sport to gardening, ensured that he would soon find the right topic to put his neighbour at ease. In short, a party at Sandringham under the care of the King and Queen had all the charm and gaiety, and none of the tedium and superabundance of an Edwardian country-house party. And as a shooting host, he was, with his own tireless enthusiasm and skill and delight, a master of the art of organising and fairly distributing the good things such shooting days afford, and a maker of red-letter days in the game books of his guests.

In common with his father, he was a great English gentleman and at his happiest as squire and host, an upholder of the best traditions of English country life, but by no means rooted in those of an era which has passed away.

It is too early to attempt to assess his place and merit among modern British sovereigns. Obituary eulogies do not assist historical judgment. In the last 120 years England has been fortunate indeed in its sovereigns. Queen Victoria, Edward VII, George V and George VI appear before us in history to have been exactly the right sovereigns for the eras during which they reigned, and (a majority, at least) to have completed their usefulness exactly at their deaths. That certainly was true of Queen Victoria and of King Edward. It may be that it is true of King George V, who was perhaps unlikely to have added to his beneficent influence after 1939. It is very different with King George VI. He was far more tolerant of new ideas and methods. But, as we know to-day, he could never have recovered that degree of health and strength which the terrible strain of his responsibility demanded.

King George VI had all his father's pride in the traditions of the monarchy, and, indeed, proved to have a greater zest for pageantry and ceremonial occasions. He was far more modern and more elastic than his father, as was necessary for a King reigning in a period of constant social upheaval. Of the qualities required of a modern constitutional King he shared with his father all that are vital, and he continued unimpaired, and perhaps made even more enduring, a practice and example of kingship created by his father and unique in civilisation. We may say without fear of contradiction that George VI and his family, by their duty and service and example, have earned the respect, the love and the gratitude of their peoples.

IN THE DAYS WHEN HIS BROTHER, KING EDWARD VIII, WAS ON THE THRONE OF ENGLAND: King George VI, as Duke of York, seen with King Edward VIII at Hendon in 1936, when they had just completed together a lengthy tour of aerodromes. At this time the Air Force was beginning to undergo expansion, and King Edward wished to see for himself the progress that was then being made.

THE ROYAL MAUNDS—THE KING AND QUEEN AFTER THE WESTMINSTER ABBEY SERVICE IN APRIL 1950, AT WHICH HIS MAJESTY DISTRIBUTED A PART OF THE SPECIALLY-MINTED MAUNDY MONEY: The custom of distributing the Royal Maunds or Maundy Money began in 1368, in the reign of Edward III, and it is a relic of the washing of the feet of poor people once performed by the Sovereign or his Consort.

Here was family life seen to be lived at its best, at its noblest, at its simplest, at its gayest, at its most graceful because at its most unselfish. The nation and Commonwealth needed, and have found since 1914, a Royal family that is simple, kindly, dutiful, above all "ordinary," one that can yet grace and adorn ceremonial splendours, can bring sunshine to drab streets, romance to tired housewives, colour to depressed areas, ideals to disillusioned men and women. That is all the genius which modern democracy demands of a constitutional monarch; it is, indeed, the only form of genius which can make a success of that awful responsibility. The King of England and his family must be the ideal conception of the ordinary man's remotest dreams and aspirations for his own family life. George VI and his family made such a pattern of monarchy and the nation and the Commonwealth's heartfelt respect, love and gratitude is theirs. King George VI had a noble reign and he and his Queen have ensured for us such another, in the example and training which they have provided for our new Queen.

We cannot realise more than a part of the burden of kingship to-day under modern conditions. In one sense at least we may say that King George VI was "happy as a king," happy in the knowledge of the respect and devotion of his people and in consciousness of duty well done. We know quite enough to say he was, despite all the blows of fate, happy as a husband and a father and an English country gentleman.

The example he set in courage, cheerfulness and devotion during the last sad and painful year of his reign must long be an inspiration to his peoples, and should suggest a fit title for him in history.

SANDRINGHAM FROM THE AIR: This picture of the Royal home was taken on February 6, the morning on which King George VI died in his sleep. King George was born at Royal Lodge, on the Sandringham Estate, in 1895, and it was there, both in childhood and manhood, that his happiest days were spent. This picture shows the extensive nature of the buildings.

THE ROYAL PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE, SANDRINGHAM, WHERE THE KING LAY IN STATE LAST WEEK: The Duke of Clarence, eldest son of King Edward VII, who died at Sandringham in 1892, three years before the birth of Prince Albert, the future King George VI, and Prince John, a son of King George V and Queen Mary, are commemorated in the Sandringham churchyard. *On right*—**A SILENT GROUP AT THE GATES ON THE MORNING OF THE KING'S DEATH:** The tenants appeared to be stunned by the news, having seen the King looking so well in recent days.

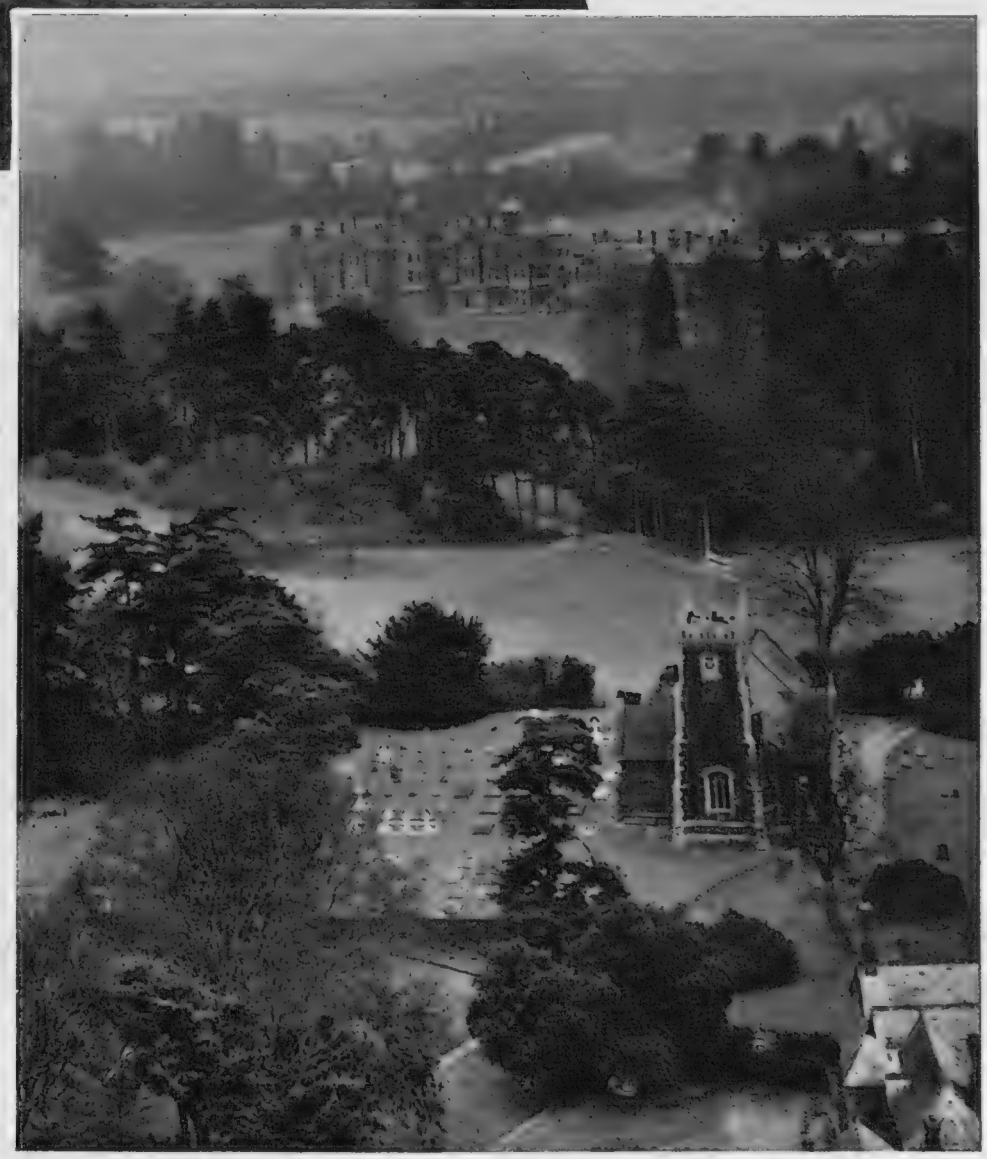
THE HOUSE OF MOURNING

SANDRINGHAM, THE ROYAL ESTATE, WHERE KING GEORGE VI WAS BORN AND WHERE HE DIED

An Aerial View of the House, Taken on the Morning of the King's Sudden Death

Sandringham Hall, so often the scene of Christmas Royal broadcasts, so often associated with joyous events in the history of the Royal Family, is to-day a house of mourning, just as it was a house of mourning in 1936 when Queen Mary was with King George V in the last hours of his life.

Sandringham was purchased by Edward VII (then Prince of Wales) in the year 1862, and it has remained popular with the Royal Family ever since. The original Sandringham Hall was demolished, and the present hall built in 1869-71, an imitation of the Elizabethan style. A fire in 1891 did damage to the amount of £10,000. The grounds of Sandringham cover about 200 acres, and in the surrounding farmlands King George VI carried out many important agricultural experiments, notably during the war years when Sandringham was the scene of a flax-growing enterprise. During the last days of his life King George VI spent many hours going round the estate, often in the company of friends on shooting parties, which he enjoyed immensely and in which he showed to the full his capability as a first-class shot.



SANDRINGHAM HOUSE VIEWED THROUGH THE OPEN GATES: This picture was also taken on the morning of the King's death. *On right*—An aerial view of the church at Sandringham, showing the flag at half-mast.

KING GEORGE VI AND HIS QUEEN
IN THEIR CORONATION ROBES

This portrait of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth was taken at Buckingham Palace on the day of their Coronation in 1937, the most memorable day in the history of the reign. The King and Queen, as another picture in this issue shows, actually appeared on the Palace balcony wearing these robes, much to the delight of the immense crowds which had assembled below.

KING GEORGE VI, THE SAILOR KING, IN THE YEAR OF HIS CORONATION

The King is seen in this portrait in the uniform of Admiral of the Fleet, the rank he assumed on his accession, when he automatically became head of the fighting forces. Of the four sailor Kings who have ascended the Throne of England, George VI shares the distinction with William IV and James II of having been under fire. King George was in H.M.S. *Collingwood* during the Battle of Jutland.

THE KING and SCOTLAND

Links with the Highlands, the Lowlands, and the Borders; by Marriage to the Daughter of a Scottish Earl, by Residence at Balmoral, by Service with the Navy at Scapa Flow

BY GEORGE BLAKE
(*Author of "The Heart of Scotland," and "The Piper's Tune"*)

STROLLING ACROSS THE LAWNS AT BALMORAL, THE HIGHLAND HOME WHICH THE KING LOVED SO WELL: The King is seen with Sir Donald Bradman, captain of the Australian cricket team which toured Britain in 1948, and strolling behind them are the Queen, Princess Margaret and members of the team. On this occasion there were about sixty guests to tea. It was an afternoon of pleasant informality, such as the King knew so well how to arrange and in which he was always aided so happily by the Queen. Balmoral was bought in 1848 by the Prince Consort for Queen Victoria.

ON a bright, brisk morning in the early summer of 1937, Princes Street, Edinburgh, was gay with pennants streaming from tall, white masts, but the sanded carriage-way seemed strangely empty as seen from my broadcasting eyrie on one of the upper stages of the Scott Monument. This processional way, usually so busy with the comings and goings of everyday traffic, was severely lined by troops of every unit, Regular or Territorial, then in Scotland, holding back the mobs on the crowded pavements. On the roof-top of a restaurant opposite my stance, the uniformed waiters, waitresses, chefs and scullions formed a curious pattern in fluttering black and white against the sky over the Firth of Forth.

All eyes, save those of the statuesque soldiery, were turned westwards; and soon enough the boom of popular cheering started to roll towards us from the other end of the long boulevard. The waitresses on the roof waved their napkins. The soldiers braced their strong backs against the pressure outwards of the pavement crowds. "They 're coming! They 're coming!" everybody cried; and, gabbling sixteen to the dozen, I tried to tell the listening public how, far below my watch-tower, an open carriage, with its outriders, escort and retinue, carried a youngish man in naval uniform and his lady.

Thus there arrived in the Capital of Scotland His Most Excellent Majesty George the Sixth, come, with a Scottish Queen, to claim his Northern kingdom and show himself to his wife's people. Guns cracked from the ramparts of Edinburgh Castle. The slap-slap and clatter of Arms Presented sounded past the Register House and away up the Calton Hill as the new King and Queen were hurled, the trumpets sounding, to the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

Two days later a B.B.C. recording-van stood discreetly parked in a side street of Newhaven, that odd, maritime corner of Edinburgh where the fishwives still wear striped petticoats under kilted gowns and carry huge wicker creels on their backs. Those of us who had been reporting vocally on the Royal progress stood about smoking cigarettes and studying the long schedule of their Majesties' engagements for the rest of the day. There broke into this group a man in morning coat and silk hat to say, as an equerry, that during a break in the long and tiring tour of the city, two small Princesses would shortly arrive to see the wonders of mobile wireless, then much more of a novelty than it is now.

They came in tweed coats and flat, schoolgirl hats: a future Queen and her little sister. A B.B.C. engineer (who remains prouder of that exploit than of a flight in a bomber over Berlin in later years) lifted them over the steps into the van. A gentleman strolled up to join us—and we clicked to attention, our silk hats down the seams of our ceremonial striped trousers. He responded by offering a cigarette-case all round, begging us to stand at ease. He peered into the van; he asked questions about our job, almost seeming to suggest that he knew quite as well as we did what a long day of duty and strict attention to timing could mean. This was King George, the man, as distinct from the Monarch we had seen driving with pomp and circumstance to the Palace of his Stuart ancestors.

It is proper to say that in Scotland we like the common touch in kings. The Londoner's natural delight is in the high Court ceremony he may witness almost any day—from the Changing of the Guard to the Trooping the Colour, from a State drive to the Palace of Westminster to the appearance of the Royal family on the balcony of the Palace on happy occasions. The Scot—seeing little of those grand goings-on, deprived, indeed, of a resident monarchy for more than 300 years—hardly understands the idiom of formality, so to speak, and tends to look more closely for the humanities that may be discerned through the divinity that doth hedge a king.

It was much, in terms of Scottish opinion, that in 1923 the slim, shy Duke of York took as his bride the Lady Elizabeth Angela Marguerite Bowes-Lyon out of the big house of Glamis, in its picturesque corner of the Angus countryside. Here was a young lady closer to ordinary folk than any Royal person, with the best will in the world, could ever hope to be allowed to be—a lady of the high old aristocracy indeed, but one well and affectionately known to tough old Scots housekeepers, coachmen, stable-boys, gamekeepers and the wives of the gardeners in the lodges by the great gates. She had been scolded by Scots nannies; Scots laundry-maids had plainly complained about the condition of her garments from time to time. It made a link, somehow, between a Northern peasantry and the apparently cloistered life within the big, closely-guarded Palace in faraway London.

A LONDON-SCOTTISH OCCASION—A MEMORY OF 1934: King George VI, then Duke of York, in Highland dress at the Ball of the London Angus Association. The Duchess of York, ever conscious of her ancestry, wore a tartan sash across her evening gown.

A HAPPY FAMILY GATHERING IN THE GROUNDS OF BALMORAL IN THE AUTUMN OF 1951 BEFORE THE KING RETURNED TO LONDON PRIOR TO HIS OPERATION: Prince Charles (now Duke of Cornwall and Heir Apparent) is the centre of attraction as he sits astride the sculpture of a deer, watched by his parents, his grandparents, and Princess Margaret.

The most obvious contact, of course, was through Balmoral Castle, the Highland home of the British Royal family for more than a century now.

The fabric of the Castle itself, a Victorian exercise in the Scots baronial manner, would hardly stir a modern architect to rapture. Nevertheless, it now wears the indefinable bloom of a period piece; it is so authentically a creation of our late King's immemorial great-grandmother, and as such absorbed perfectly into the Swiss-like scenery of Deeside. However romantic her taste may seem nowadays, old Queen Victoria had an eye for a good bit of countryside; and a man may travel far before coming on the like (in its curious blend of wild moorland, coniferous woodlands and the urgent Dee, with the trig, stone-built towns of the valley) of this special bit of Highland land.

It has often enough seemed a pity that, in their autumn holiday home, the Royal family cannot escape the clicking shutters and the urgent pencils of publicity up to date. It is a pity that the Sunday morning progress from the Castle to the little Parish Kirk of Crathie should attract so many long-distance travellers by car, rather more interested in gawping at important persons than in worshipping God. The bulk of the Scottish people were happier to think that a King, known to be frail in his body, could rest in the peace of Deeside, go out with a gun as he felt inclined, or even flounder up the screes with a rifle to get a shot at a stag on the skyline, while the Queen took a salmon from the shining river. They are a people interested in sport. It simply seemed to them the right thing that the King, duly advised by whiskered ghillies, should have a spell away from all that fancy, processional fal-de-ral along the Mall and down Whitehall and, a human being, let off both barrels into a covey of grouse.

The annual, or even more frequent, visit brought life to Scotland. It has sometimes seemed to some of us that London gets rather more than its share of the glory. But we enjoyed the smaller-scale details of the arrival in Scotland. After the battery of cameras popping off their bulbs in the caverns of Euston there were the douce courtesies of the Lord Provost and Chief Constable of Aberdeen on the gusty station platform of that coldly dignified city; the warm greeting of the mere Provost of a Deeside townlet; the honest cheers of children with weather-empurpled faces from a country school, and a sharp and homely touch of snow on the Grampians as King and Queen proceeded on holiday.

Balmoral is a private residence, and King George was "the laird" to his people up there. There was no State obligation on him to worship in the little parish church of Crathie, and he attended the Sunday morning services of the Rev. John Lamb as any other family man. At Balmoral—as, no doubt, at Sandringham—we felt that the family became indeed a family like our own, with the children rioting in the private grounds as his Majesty had done in the days of that brilliant shot, his father; with picnics on the purple moors or among the pines that so resinously scent the Deeside air—a tang he loved as one loves the bitter-sweet perfume of a log burning on one's own hearth.

And then the Braemar Gathering—always, in each early September of peace, the Braemar Gathering!

It is hard exactly to place this festival in relation either to the King's life or to the life of Scotland. It is vulnerable as an institution highly organised, with not a few commercial trailers. It has a fatal fascination for the climber, whether an Englishman in the "dam' loud kilt" of a clan to which even his maternal great-grandmother did not belong, or a flashy individual from the richer suburbs of Glasgow, well in the new money and certainly in a resplendent car. For the King's honest subjects on Upper Deeside it remains their own show, the annual tournament of strength, skill or featness in anything from caber-tossing by way of the Highland Fling to the solemn subtleties of the pibroch, which is not an instrument but the sonata form of bagpipe music.

The setting is a gift from the gods—a natural bowl of green turf, its banks tufted with heather in bloom. When the sun shines on this scene—on the marching pipers, the lacy frills of the little girl-dancers on their platform, on the monstrous torsos of kilted wrestlers in the centre of the ring; when the pipes wail incessantly and the smoke of caterers' fires rises from behind the gleaming marquees . . . then the Gathering displays a uniquely aboriginal quality. When the King came with the family to occupy the modest Royal pavilion, rather naively decorated with tartan and bunches of heather, he did not seem at all the monarch approaching to the blare of trumpets behind clattering outriders. By some alchemy of setting and atmosphere he was just the laird (even if he was the laird of all the lairds) come to watch the Games and enjoy himself.

Thus Scotland saw King George in positions and moods that no hanger-about the Victoria Memorial could ever understand. He was the slim King—not the deadly shot his father was, but still a marksman in the first class—who loved to shoot over the lands of the Border Dukes. He had been the young Prince who, in 1930, played himself in (with not a very good shot, to be sure) as Captain of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club at St. Andrews. He had been, long ago, the boy-midshipman in H.M.S. *Collingwood* at the Battle of Jutland, in and out of Rosyth, operated on for appendicitis during his war service in Scotland by that great eccentric and brilliant Glasgow surgeon, the late Sir William MacEwen, who could almost out-do Royalty in his use of the formal "we" when referring to his own remarkable exploits in the surgery of the brain. It is a coincidence that, many years before the tired King's last operation, Sir William had pioneered in lung resection at Glasgow's Western Infirmary.

Through such associations, therefore, the frail monarch who had married a Scottish lady seemed to us to *belong* more closely than (with the greatest respect) the Duke of Windsor or that ill-fated Prince who lost his life on a mountainside in Sutherland. And those of us who, as journalists or broadcasters, so often followed in the train of his regal processions, learned that this King George VI was a good and sincere man; it can be put as bluntly as that. We saw a tired man at close quarters: a nervous, shy man doing earnestly and sincerely the most difficult job in the world, possibly; a man not resting on the prestige of his inheritance, but fighting all the time against poor health and diffidence to meet to the full the obligations of the position that had become his through such strange circumstances.

Is it an impertinence to say that we, the professional observers, were always on his side: our hearts with him in his reticence, our minds appreciatively assessing his courage and patience? We watched him being led through an industrial establishment and having explained to him intricate technical processes, in which even a journalist could take little interest. But there was always in King George, as he went through the factories and shipyards of our industrial regions, that interested droop of the gaunt face over the job, the friendly word to the operative, the shy smile of a natural man. One wanted to say, impertinently enough, "Should you not go and have a rest at Balmoral, sir?"

But how fortunate he was in his consort, if a Scot may indulge the racial propensity to boast out of season. How beautifully poised is that lady we must now call the Queen Mother! How wonderfully she took a little more than her share of the regal burden!

Just before the Second World War the great liner *Queen Elizabeth* was to be launched at Clydebank, and suddenly the shadow of Munich fell over the land. The King must stay in London with his advisers; the Queen alone, but with the Princesses, would be there on the daïs under the ominous bows of the great ship. In the B.B.C. box, high up on one platform of a crane, we morosely contemplated anti-climax. And then, after I had unhappily bumbled through my "setting of the scene," that lovely voice rang out clear as a silvern bell, all its intonations and modulations perfect—a born broadcaster by the grace of God.

The King's last public appearance in Scotland was at the Braemar Gathering last September, and we could see that, though a sick man, he was happy. It was from Balmoral that he travelled to an ominous meeting with specialists—but back he came again to the moors, the gun and the tang of the balsam from the firs.

And now the little girl, who was hoisted into a B.B.C. van in Newhaven in 1937 by an engineer from Streatham, or thereabouts, is the High and Mighty Princess Elizabeth. Her small son is Duke of Rothesay, Earl of Carrick, Baron Renfrew and Great Steward of Scotland. Both have played as small children at Balmoral. They will return as the affairs of State allow, no doubt; and no doubt they will both remember the sensitive father and grandfather who found so much of his life and happiness north of the Border.

THE HIGHLAND GAMES AT BRAEMAR IN 1951—THE MARQUIS OF ABERDEEN IN CONVERSATION WITH THE KING AND QUEEN, AND, IN THE BACKGROUND, PRINCESS MARGARET AND THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH: Over 30,000 people, among them many overseas visitors, crowded into the Princess Royal Park to watch the Braemar Games. As ever, it was a day of Scottish pageantry, very much after the King's heart. One of the special attractions of the occasion was the performance of an Australian pipe band, which, as "The Sphere" noted at the time, was a reminder of the forthcoming Royal visit to Australia—a visit that was destined to be postponed a second time on account of the King's health, and finally put off by the tragic news of his death. This was the King's last public appearance in Scotland.

THE ROYAL FAMILY AT HOME — THE KING CELEBRATES HIS FIFTY-FIRST BIRTHDAY AND THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS ACCESSION TO THE THRONE: This photographic study of the King and Queen and the Princesses was taken in 1946, only a few months before the twenty-first birthday of Princess Elizabeth. From the day of the King's betrothal in 1923, when he was Duke of York, to the day of his death, the family aspect of the Throne was uppermost in the minds of the people. Often the King spoke of it. In his Christmas broadcast in 1947 the King referred to his daughter's betrothal, of the happiness it had given them, "as great as any we have ever known. Our elder daughter," he said, "wedded with our blessing the man she loves, and one whom we love too. Our joy has been increased a thousandfold by knowing that it is so widely shared." Not less widely shared was their joy in another family celebration—the Silver Wedding of the King and Queen in 1948, when messages poured in from all parts of the world.

THE KING AND HIS FAMILY AT WINDSOR IN THE EARLY DAYS OF THE WAR: The King and Queen with Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret on the day before Princess Elizabeth's fourteenth birthday, on April 21, 1940.

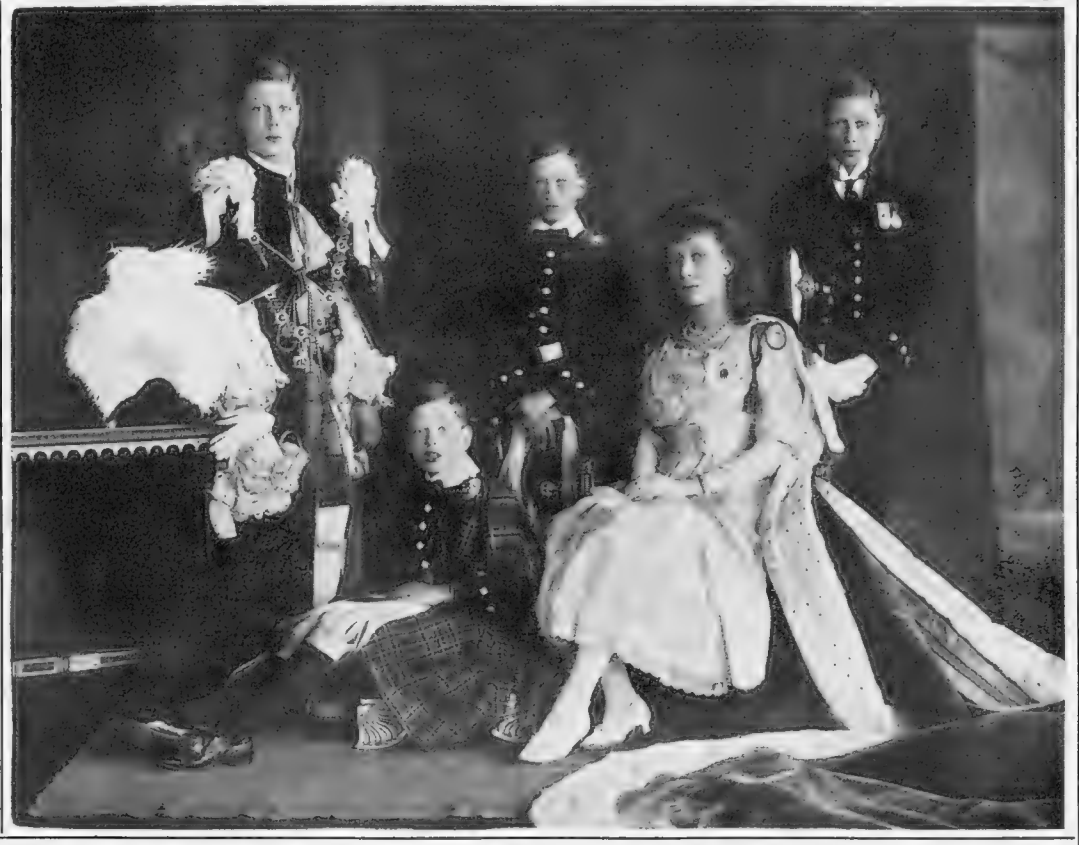
THE UNITED FAMILY

King George VI With His Wife and Two Daughters

THE QUEEN, A RADIANT FIGURE GOWNED FOR A CIVIC BALL AT DURBAN DURING THE ROYAL TOUR IN SOUTH AFRICA IN 1947: Behind her are Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret, who helped to share the burdens of this arduous 10,000-mile journey.

THE LIFE-STORY OF KING GEORGE VI

A RECORD IN WORDS AND PICTURES OF MAJOR EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF THE THIRD MONARCH OF THE HOUSE OF WINDSOR, FROM HIS BIRTH IN 1895 THROUGH THE YEARS OF KINGSHIP



THE FUTURE KING GEORGE VI IN THE DAYS OF HIS BABYHOOD AND HIS YOUTH WITH MEMBERS OF HIS FAMILY: *Left*—Prince Albert, as he was then known, on the knees of his mother, the Duchess of York (the future Queen Mary, Consort of King George V). *Right*—Prince Albert, as a midshipman, seen with his sister, Princess Mary (the future Princess Royal), and his brothers, Edward, Prince of Wales (now Duke of Windsor), Prince George (the late Duke of Kent), and Prince Henry (now Duke of Gloucester).

DURING THE CAREFREE DAYS AT ABERGELDIE: Prince Albert, the future George VI, with his sister, Princess Mary (now Princess Royal), and his brother, the Prince of Wales (now Duke of Windsor). These three spent much time together in the early days and did their lessons together.

PRINCE ALBERT AS A MIDSHIPMAN: The future King George VI seen on board the Royal yacht with Admiral Sir Lewis Beaumont. At fourteen Prince Albert went to Osborne with his brother, Prince Edward, the future Prince of Wales, to take up a naval career.

King George VI, whom the nation now mourns so deeply, who was born at Sandringham and died at Sandringham, who followed in the sailor tradition of his great father, who, called unexpectedly to the throne, brought his fine personal qualities as a family man to the task of kingship, who won the hearts of his countrymen by his steadfastness in war and peace, is the central figure in this pictorial record stretching across the greater part of his lifetime. Neither the pictures nor these notes accompanying them make a complete chronological story; but they show the highlights of a great career, and focus attention on the development of the Prince who, seemingly destined for a minor place in our Royal annals, came in the fulness of time to bear the burden of the Crown with such infinite courage.

IT was at York Cottage, Sandringham, that the future King George VI was born on December 14, 1895. He was the second son of the Duke and Duchess of York, afterwards to succeed to the throne as King George V and Queen Mary, but at that time living very quietly and taking little part in public affairs.

Prince Albert, as their second little son was christened, was only eighteen months younger than his elder brother, the future Edward VIII, so that they both enjoyed the same nurses, governesses and tutors as their happy childhood rolled on. Their wonderful great-grandmother was still reigning—indeed, she had her Diamond Jubilee when Prince Albert was an infant.

Prince Albert was five years old when Queen Victoria died, and his grandfather, King Edward VII, reigned in her stead. This made some difference to the young family at York Cottage, now four in number, for Princess Mary had been born in 1897, and Prince Henry in 1900. The Duke of York had become heir to the Throne, and in consequence had to be near the Court; and so the Royal children were to be found at Marlborough House during the London season, at Frogmore when the Court was at Windsor, and up at Abergeldie Castle, near Balmoral, in the autumn. But the greater part of the year was still spent at York Cottage, and their education was carefully carried on. Mr. Hansell, as their tutor, was responsible for their

(*Continued on following page*)

THE ROYAL FAMILY AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR—A FAMILY GROUP TAKEN IN THE GROUNDS OF BUCKINGHAM PALACE AT THE TIME OF THE SILVER WEDDING OF KING GEORGE V AND QUEEN MARY: With the King and Queen are seen Prince Albert (later to become Duke of York and later King George VI), Prince George (later to become Duke of Kent), Prince Henry (later to become the Duke of Gloucester), and Princess Mary (later to become the Princess Royal). Prince Albert is seen in the uniform of the Air Force after transferring to that Service in the closing days of the war, when he served on Trenchard's staff in France. He had previously served in the Royal Navy at Jutland.

A MISSION TO SERBIA IN 1922: The future King George VI as Duke of York seen driving through the streets of Belgrade in company with Princess Elizabeth of Rumania. They were attending the marriage of Princess Marie of Rumania to the King of Serbia, who later became King of Yugoslavia.

THE DUKE OF YORK AND HIS FIANCÉE: The future King George VI seen with his bride-to-be. Time and time again they met at social functions in London and on more than one occasion before the official betrothal the Duke stayed at Glamis Castle, the historic home of the Strathmore family in Forfarshire.

(*Continued from previous page*)

general training, but M. Hua taught French, and they all were instructed in military drill and in every kind of sport until Prince Albert became proficient in shooting, riding, swimming, golf and football. Later he was to add tennis to his accomplishments; but to the end his favourite sport was shooting and, as has been recorded, the very last day of his life was spent striding among the woods and the stubble of his beloved Sandringham.

For the first fourteen years of his life Prince Albert was just one of a happy family of brothers, with one sister who, be it said, was equally keen on games. When the Duke and Duchess of York left the children to go on tour, they were in the charge of Queen Alexandra, known to them all as the kindest of grandparents, who allowed them, perhaps, somewhat more freedom than was permitted in the regular routine.

The Naval Tradition.—It was decided that Prince Albert should follow in his father's footsteps and take up a full naval career, so that at fourteen he went with his elder brother Prince Edward, to Osborne, where he enjoyed the ordinary life of a naval cadet. Two years at Osborne were followed by two further years at Dartmouth. He occasionally had to return home to be present at some great function in which he had to take a part, young though he was. The death of King Edward VII in 1910, and the Coronation of King George V the following year, interrupted the naval tuition for brief periods, reminding him that he was a Prince of the Royal line, but otherwise his course was precisely that of the other cadets training with him. In 1913 Prince Albert went for his first cruise in H.M.S. *Cumberland*, delighting in the new experiences and enjoying his first view of many new places. They visited the West Indies, Canada and Newfoundland, all bringing new knowledge to the young Prince who was gazetted midshipman on his return. He was appointed to the *Collingwood*, and joined her in September for a cruise in the Mediterranean. It is said that when his father, King George V, made an inspection of the ship, his young son, whom he had not seen for some time, passed him with a formal salute.

The Future King George VI at Jutland.—When the Great War broke out in 1914, Prince Albert, the future King George VI, was nineteen years old. He was still serving in the *Collingwood*, and eager, like all the young men of his generation, to play his part in the conflict. In common with many of them, no doubt, he thought it might all be over in a few weeks, possibly before he would have time to see active service.

The Life-Story of His Majesty King George VI

From the FIRST WORLD WAR to the DAYS of BETROTHAL and MARRIAGE

THE BRIDE SETS OUT FROM HER BRUTON STREET RESIDENCE : Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon seen as she left the London home of her parents, the Earl and Countess of Strathmore, for her marriage to the Duke of York on April 26, 1923. Genealogists were busily at work showing the joint descent of the bride and bridegroom from Robert II of Scotland, but to the general public such delineations were of little interest alongside the fact that here beyond all question was a Royal love match. The Duke's marriage was not only ideally happy, but in the years ahead it was a source of great strength in his increasing volume of public work.

On left—

THE HONEYMOON IN THE SPRING OF 1923 : The Duke of York and his bride at Polesden Lacy, near Dorking, where they went to stay after their marriage at Westminster Abbey. Their first home was at White Lodge, Richmond Park, which had formerly been the home of the Duchess of Teck, Queen Mary's mother.

On right—

AN HEIRESS-PRESUMPTIVE FOR THE THRONE OF ENGLAND : The Duke and Duchess of York with their first child, Princess Elizabeth, now Queen Elizabeth II of England. The Princess was born at 17, Bruton Street, the home of the Strathmores, on April 21, 1926.

At the time of the declaration of war, Prince Albert was stationed with the Fleet in Scapa Flow, but before many weeks he had to be hurriedly transferred to shore, where an operation for appendicitis was performed. By February, 1915, the Prince had rejoined his ship, but he was not really well, for the appendix had not been the only cause of the trouble.

Again and again, the Prince had to be sent to hospital, but he was always eager to be back on duty, and he was actually present at the Battle of Jutland in 1916, serving in a gun turret with coolness and courage. In some respects there is a parallel between the career of King George VI and that of his son-in-law, the Duke of Edinburgh, for the latter, it will be remembered, served at Matapan with no less distinction, one of the key naval engagements in the Mediterranean in the Second World War. Another bout of disabling illness arising from severe gastric trouble condemned the Prince to prolonged inactivity in hospital in Scapa Flow, and his sea service was finally ended by an operation for duodenal ulcer, in November, 1917.

The doctors then forbade him to return to the sea, and Prince Albert was transferred to the Royal Naval Air Service, which was a little later absorbed by the R.A.F. Before the end of the war the Prince was transferred to the staff of Sir Hugh Trenchard (later Lord Trenchard) serving in France. It was in the uniform of the R.A.F., indeed, that he represented the King at the State entry into Brussels of the late King Albert after the years of occupation.

He Goes to Cambridge.—When the war was over there was an opportunity for Prince Albert to have the experience of university life, which he had missed. Like so many of his contemporaries, the Prince had found himself untrained, except in those spheres which it was devoutly hoped would never again be of practical use. In 1919, in company with Prince Henry, the future Duke of Gloucester, Prince Albert entered Trinity College, Cambridge. The Princes did not reside in college, but lived with Wing Commander Louis Greig and his wife. Wing Commander Greig had been medical officer at Osborne and, owing to Prince Albert's uncertain health at the time, had been closely associated with him. History, economics and social problems were the subjects that most interested Prince Albert, and he made a serious study of them. It would almost seem as if he was preparing himself for kingship, so wide ranging were his studies, although the possibilities of such an event must seldom have entered his mind. Prince Albert was often obliged to take part in various Royal

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The Life-Story of His Majesty King George VI

THE CORONATION OF KING GEORGE VI AT WESTMINSTER ABBEY

KING GEORGE VI CROWNED AND SEATED UPON THE CORONATION CHAIR: On May 12, 1937, the King was crowned amid scenes of traditional splendour within the Collegiate Church of Westminster. In one respect there was a new departure, the Coronation oath being altered to embrace the changes introduced by the Statute of Westminster. The enthusiasm evoked by Coronation Week was tremendous.

On left—

AFTER THE CORONATION THE NEWLY-CROWNED KING AND QUEEN APPEAR ON THE BALCONY OF BUCKINGHAM PALACE WITH PRINCESS ELIZABETH AND PRINCESS MARGARET: For three successive nights after the Coronation vast crowds gathered outside Buckingham Palace, calling for the King, who repeatedly appeared on the balcony accompanied by the Queen.

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functions, deputising for his brother, the then Prince of Wales, when he was away on one of his many and exacting tours.

The Betrothal.—In 1920 Prince Albert was created Duke of York; he had already been made a Knight of the Garter on his twenty-first birthday. In 1922 came the marriage of his sister Princess Mary to the then Viscount Lascelles, and it was on that occasion, it is said, that the Duke fell in love with his bride-to-be, Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon, the youngest daughter of the Earl of Strathmore.

The Duke of York and Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon had met many times at Society functions during the seasons after the war, and on more than one occasion the Duke had stayed at Glamis Castle, the famous Scottish home of the Earl of Strathmore. Early in 1923 came the news which made the retiring Duke a centre of universal public interest.

In the formal phraseology of the Court Circular King George V and Queen Mary announced the betrothal of their beloved son the Duke of York to the Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon, daughter of the Earl and Countess of Strathmore, to which the King "has gladly given his consent." Lady Elizabeth was a vivacious and popular member of young society, a close friend of the Royal family, and a special favourite of Queen Mary, it was said; and so in the happiest circumstances began the Royal association of the young Prince and the Scottish commoner, which was destined in course of time to secure in the minds of the people the impression of the Royal family as heads of a mighty family of peoples throughout the earth.

Marriage at Westminster Abbey.—This was the first time that anyone in the direct line of succession had married a commoner since James II had married Anne Hyde, the daughter of the Earl of Clarendon. The marriage took place at Westminster Abbey on April 26, 1923. As ever, THE SPHERE was an indefatigable recorder of great events. Our special artist, Fortunino Matania, sketched in detail the brilliant scene within Westminster Abbey as the Archbishop of Canterbury pronounced the Benediction, and later in the Sacrarium, where the bride and bridegroom signed the marriage register.

London was truly *en fête* for the occasion, for the

THE CROWNING OF KING GEORGE VI—THE CULMINATING MOMENT OF THE CORONATION SERVICE AT WESTMINSTER ABBEY: The Archbishop of Canterbury is seen in the act of placing the Crown of St. Edward on the King's head, the culminating act of the Coronation service and the most solemn of all moments of the reign, symbolising as it does the dedication of the King to the service of the Church and people. Just before this his Majesty had been divested of his Royal Crimson Robe of State, been anointed with the consecrated oil poured from the ampulla, and then invested with the Imperial Mantle of Cloth of Gold—a magnificent vestment. In his hands were placed the Sceptre with the Cross, emblem of Kingly Power and Justice, and the Rod with the Dove, emblem of Equity and Mercy.

people had been quick to recognise what was beyond doubt a love-match.

White Lodge.—The young couple made their first home at White Lodge, in Richmond Park, the house that stands almost in the centre of the park on a hilltop site which stretches down on the one hand to the lake, and on the other to the Roehampton and Robin Hood Gates. White Lodge had once been the residence of the Duchess of Teck, the mother of Queen Mary and the Earl of Athlone. It was a charming old Georgian house, very quiet and secluded, but it was soon found to be too far away from town to be easy to carry out the many engagements which fell to the Duke and Duchess. And so a house, No. 145, Piccadilly, was selected, right in the centre of things, overlooking Hyde Park at the rear and looking across the Green Park to Buckingham Palace in the front.

The Touring Begins.—It was in 1924 that the Duke and Duchess began the first of their important overseas tours, making a prolonged tour of East Africa and the Sudan. Then in January 1927 they embarked upon a great imperial mission culminating in the opening of the new Australian Parliament buildings at Canberra. They sailed in the *Renown*, visiting the West Indies, the islands of the Caribbean Sea and Fiji, and staying one month in New Zealand before continuing to Australia. Behind them they left their little daughter Princess Elizabeth, who a year previously had been born at the Bruton Street house of the Strathmores on April 21, 1926.

The Duke's Interests at Home.—The years ahead were intensely busy but comparatively uneventful, the Duke identifying himself with many interests at home, such as the Safety First Movement, the British Empire Cancer Campaign, the Playing Fields Association and the Industrial Welfare Society. Out of the last had grown his scheme of the Duke of York's camp for public school and industrial boys.

Somehow or other it seemed in those far-off days that nothing was likely in the future to disturb the calm and even tenor of the Duke of York's family life.

The Drama of the Abdication.—Then in 1936 drama was piled upon drama. The light that played upon the Throne became intense. King George V died at the beginning of 1936. Edward VIII reigned in his stead, but within a year he had left the scene of great affairs to marry the lady of his choice. The crisis was at once swift and inexorable. The situation of a King and a Consort was regarded as untenable, and so came the Abdication. While millions of his former subjects sat round their wireless sets on that fateful evening of December 11, 1936, they heard Edward VIII deliver his moving farewell, using so dramatically the words, "I now quit altogether public affairs and I lay down

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MARCH 1939, THE STATE VISIT OF PRESIDENT LEBRUN—THE FRENCH PRESIDENT STANDING BETWEEN QUEEN ELIZABETH AND QUEEN MARY IN THE ROYAL BOX AT COVENT GARDEN, WHERE THEY ATTENDED A PERFORMANCE OF TCHAIKOVSKY'S BALLET "THE SLEEPING PRINCESS": King George VI is seen standing between the Queen and Madame Lebrun, and also in the Royal box are the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, the Duke and Duchess of Kent and other members of the Royal Family. At the moment when this picture was taken the audience were standing to attention for the playing of the "Marseillaise." The picture of the smiling King and the smiling President going about London together in this year of anxiety was a tonic to the world—a world already deeply anxious at the course of events upon the Continent of Europe. The visit to London of President Lebrun followed the visit to Paris of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in 1938—a visit which was regarded as a personal triumph for the King and Queen.

IN THE DARK DAYS OF WAR, WHEN THE KING PLAYED SUCH A STEADFAST ROLE IN THE NATION'S AFFAIRS: *Left*—King George VI and Queen Elizabeth seen with Mr. Churchill in the grounds of Buckingham Palace. The bombing of the Palace three times in one week at the height of the blitz in the autumn of 1940 only strengthened the King's determination to remain among his people in London. *Right*—King George VI arriving to inspect a Home Guard unit during the days of the Battle of Britain. Like that of King George V before him, King George VI's record in war was a record of duty, endurance, service, inspiration and unfaltering faith in the cause. His visits to the front lines were not so frequent as those of his father, for as John Gore wrote at the time, "by living in London the King was at the 'front.'"

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my burden," and ending with that brotherly commendation: "And now we all have a new King, I wish him and you his people happiness with all my heart."

King George VI Begins His Reign.—So the Commonwealth had a new King, and the new King was the self-effacing Duke of York. He had been called to the throne with tragic unexpectedness. The Dukedom of York was once again merged with the Crown, and a new figure, trained like his father to support rather than fill the Throne, set out with earnest application and deep resolution to fulfil his task. How brilliantly that fulfilment was achieved all the world knows.

After the year of Abdication came the year of the Coronation, the new King and Queen driving through London to a thunder of acclamation.

A year later the King and Queen achieved a personal triumph with their visit to France, and then in 1939 came the tremendous acclaim of the Canadian tour.

The Canadian Tour of 1939.—When King George VI set foot in Canada in May, 1939, he was our first reigning monarch to cross the Atlantic in order to visit one of the British Dominions. Twelve years later his daughter was to make the same journey, but in a mere fraction of the time, speeding across the Western ocean in a B.O.A.C. airliner.

For King George VI and Queen Elizabeth it was to be an intensely arduous tour, following, indeed, the pattern of all such Royal tours. For six weeks after landing in Canada the King and Queen made an unforgettable progress from coast to coast. From the people of every Province and not least from French-speaking Quebec, they received a tumultuous welcome. On May 19 the King and Queen entered Ottawa, their Canadian capital, with the full-throated cheers of more than a quarter of a million of their subjects ringing in their ears, and thanks to what this journal acclaimed at the time as the miracle of modern flight, THE SPHERE was able only a few days later to print pictures of their Majesties at the Federal Parliament House. The pictures had been flown across the Atlantic by Yankee Clipper.

Westward to Vancouver.—After this memorable occasion in Ottawa, King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, as their elder daughter was to do after them, journeyed on to Toronto, there to receive the thunderous cheers of a population swollen to several times its normal size. Then came Winnipeg's welcome, the typical welcome of the prairies, and then the journey across

The Life-Story of His Majesty King George VI

THE KING IN THE YEARS OF ENDURANCE, AND THE DAYS OF VICTORY

THE KING WITH THE ARMIES IN NORTH AFRICA IN 1943—AN INFORMAL LUNCH IN THE WOODS DURING A VISIT TO THE AMERICAN FORCES : The King is seen with General Patton, the fighting commander of America's tank forces. While on this extensive tour of the African front the King visited hospitals on the Mediterranean and spent some time with the war correspondents reporting the campaign.

VJ-DAY IN LONDON IN THE AUTUMN OF 1945—KING GEORGE VI AND QUEEN ELIZABETH WITH PRINCESS ELIZABETH AND PRINCESS MARGARET ON THE BALCONY OF BUCKINGHAM PALACE ACKNOWLEDGING THE SUSTAINED OVATION OF THE CROWDS : Many times during the course of the day the King and Queen came out on the balcony in response to the clamour of the people, and on their third appearance they were joined by the Prime Minister, Mr. Churchill.

THE VICTORY PARADE IN JUNE 1946—KING GEORGE VI TAKING THE SALUTE AT THE SALUTING DAÏS IN THE MALL WHERE, WITH MEMBERS OF HIS FAMILY AROUND HIM, AND WITH HIS MINISTERS AND HIS GENERALS ON EITHER SIDE, HE TOOK THE SALUTE OF THE MARCHING FORCES : As men and women in thousands marched past the King at the saluting base, the Victory celebrations reached a most moving climax, and one that will never be forgotten by all who took part in them. For one-and-three-quarter hours the King took the salute, acknowledging the soldiers of the desert, the men who fought at Alamein and Mareth, the victors of Caen, the parachutists of Arnhem, the heroes of the Navy and the Air Force, and, over and above all, perhaps, the civilians who endured the trials and terrors of the air war.

the wide open spaces to Vancouver, the western gate of the fast-developing Canadian Dominion. Later, setting the pattern for the tour that Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh were to take over a decade afterwards, came the visit to Washington, D.C. 700,000 people, it is said, lined the processional way, and, according to one contemporary eyewitness, it seemed that the theory that Washington crowds did not cheer was disproved for ever. A highlight of the Washington visit was the Congressional reception in the Capitol, where the King and Queen met many notabilities in American political life. Mr. Nat Patton, of Texas, is recorded as having said to the Queen, " Cousin Elizabeth, you are a thousand times more pretty than the pictures." Even allowing for the natural exuberance of the Panhandle, there were a host of Americans at the time who shared this view.

The Verge of War.—The triumphal tour came to an end after visits to New York and Hyde Park, the home of President Roosevelt, and further journeyings through the Maritime Provinces, through Fredericton and Charlottetown to Halifax. King George VI and Queen Elizabeth sailed for home on June 15, 1939, leaving Halifax in the setting sun of a perfect summer's day, with the godspeed of 12,000,000 Canadians. They were returning to a Europe across which the shadows of Nazidom were already lengthening. Britain was already becoming certain of impending catastrophe, and in less than three months Hitler was to bestride Europe like a Colossus, setting his heel upon Poland and plunging Britain into the midst of a long and bloody war, in which the steadfastness of the King and of his people would be tried to the uttermost.

Of that steadfastness it is not necessary to dwell here, for all the world knows how the King and Queen met the challenge of the war, sharing the burdens of those who suffered in the London blitz.

Then came the days of victory, the exultation of VE-Day and VJ-Day in London, the inevitable Palace scenes of rejoicing, and in the year following, the great Victory Parade.

The South African Tour.—King George VI's last visit to any of his peoples overseas was the Royal Tour of South Africa in 1947. At the end of January in that year the King and Queen, accompanied by Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret, drove through the wintry streets of London from Buckingham Palace to Waterloo, receiving an affectionate farewell from citizens who thronged the route down the Mall and through Westminster to watch them start out on their three-months tour.

The Royal family boarded H.M.S. *Vanguard* at Portsmouth on the same evening. Seventeen days later the Royal family disembarked in Cape Town, there to receive the first of a series of fervent welcomes from white and native citizens alike. This was the first visit to South Africa of a reigning Sovereign. The Royal family at once plunged into the exacting engagements of the tour, with garden parties, State banquets and civic balls following each other in swift succession. February 21, 1947, was a day of particular significance,

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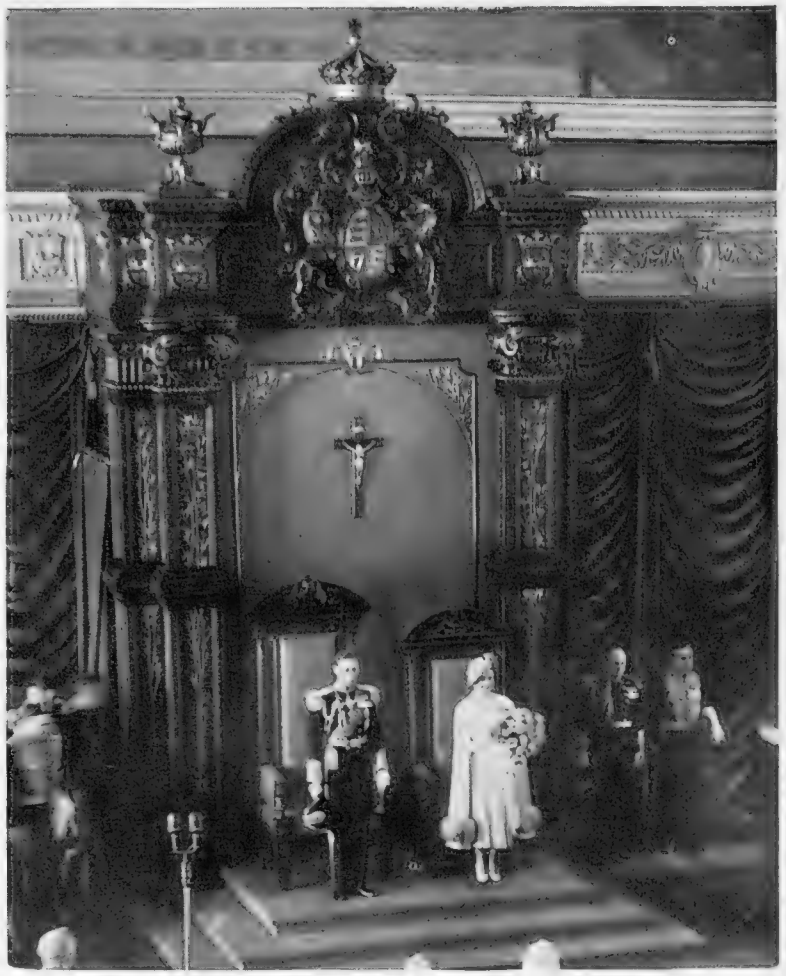
The Life-Story of His Majesty King George VI

IN CANADA IN 1939, AND SOUTH AFRICA IN 1947

KING GEORGE VI IN HIS CANADIAN CAPITAL: The King and Queen outside the Federal Parliament House in Ottawa, with Mr. Mackenzie King standing behind them. No reigning British Sovereign had ever before set foot in Canada, and it was little wonder that the people of the Dominion were stirred to such depths by the arrival of King George and his Consort. They were especially stirred, too, by the splendour of Royal pageantry, and the sight of the King in his Field Marshal's uniform, his blue sash boldly contrasting with scarlet and gold, and of the Queen beside him in Court dress, must have provided an unforgettable moment for the people of Ottawa as their Majesties emerged from Parliament, where the King had made his speech from the Throne. "The Queen and I," he declared, "deeply appreciate your loyal messages. I am very happy that my visit to Canada affords me an opportunity of meeting Parliament. No ceremony could more completely symbolise the free and equal association of the nations of our Commonwealth."



KING GEORGE VI AND QUEEN ELIZABETH IN FRENCH-SPEAKING CANADA: The King and Queen seen in the Legislative Chamber of Quebec's Provincial Parliament.

WITH A GREAT STATESMAN OF THE COMMONWEALTH: King George VI and Queen Elizabeth seen with the late General Smuts, Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa, during a visit to the Natal National Park in the course of the Royal tour of South Africa in 1947. Later in the tour the King and Queen paid General Smuts the honour of visiting his farm at Irene, fifteen miles from Pretoria. If anything, the South African tour, in the course of which the King and Queen travelled 10,000 miles within the Union and in the Rhodesias, was even more exacting than the great Canadian tour of 1939, and it was noted at the time that the King was showing signs of the strain he was undergoing. When the tour ended in May the Royal Family returned to England in the *Vanguard*, and were thus able to enjoy some relaxation.

THE JOURNEY INTO THE RHODESIAS DURING THE SOUTH AFRICAN TOUR: The House of Assembly at Salisbury, where the King opened a session of Parliament.

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the King, who in constitutional theory is present at the opening of all Parliaments, and in whose name every Governor-General presides, actually opening the South African Parliament in person. On the following day the family set out on their 10,000-mile tour of the Union, which was to take them through the Cape Garden route, to the cities of East London and Port Elizabeth, through the native territories of the Transkei and the Ciskei, and on to Durban, Pietermaritzburg, north into the populous Transvaal, and still farther north into the Rhodesias, where they saw the wonders of the Victoria Falls.

Princess Elizabeth's Self-Dedication.—Perhaps the most unforgettable feature of the whole tour was the future Queen's twenty-first-birthday celebrations in Cape Town at the very close of the tour, when Princess Elizabeth broadcast to the Empire. On that day she truly came of age in the minds of the people, and many will never forget who heard her in person, or who heard her words over the radio, the ringing earnestness of her pledge, "I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service and the service of the great Imperial family to which we all belong." At the end of the Royal Tour in April, watched by a vast concourse from the Duncan Dock, H.M.S. *Vanguard* steamed out into Table Bay after the Royal family had received a tremendous send-off from the people of Cape Town. At a civic luncheon General Smuts, the Union Premier, had referred to the wave of personal and national emotion that the Royal visit had stirred among the people of South Africa, and no one doubted the great work that had been done by the King's appearance in person in a land which has seldom for long enjoyed political tranquillity. On April 26 the King and Queen celebrated aboard the *Vanguard* the twenty-fourth anniversary of their wedding, and as they sailed home through the sunlit waters of the South Atlantic, conscious of a mission achieved, they at last had an opportunity for sustained rest denied them by the exacting nature of the long tour. Even then, however, there were some who knew the King intimately who felt that the tour had been altogether too much for him. They knew his selflessness and his determination, and they knew, as his people suspected, that no matter what the cost he would battle on to the end.

KING GEORGE, AND THE FOREIGN SCENE

A Traveller, Yes, But By No Means the Most Travelled of British Monarchs, Although Turning to Good Account Some of His Momentous Visits Abroad

By FERDINAND TUOHY

OF the five Sovereigns who spanned the past 115 years of British history Queen Victoria was the least known in the flesh to her Empire beyond the seas, and King George VI the least known in person to foreign peoples.

Queen Victoria made up for her lack of direct acquaintance with the Empire in days when it took three months to Australia and back, by being a familiar figure at continental Courts and resorts—and what Courts they were! She could reach back to State visits to Louis-Philippe and Louis Napoleon, to Maria Theresa's Hofburg when it was still in its splendour, and to the carefree little Courts of sovereign German princes.

Her son, King Edward VII, was the first of future British monarchs to range the Empire widely (as Prince of Wales), and what he did not know first-hand of Europe, for one in his situation, could scarcely have been worth knowing.

King George V was known as a stay-at-home monarch. Yet he, too, had seen the Empire as Duke of York and Prince of Wales, and later as King, while he was the last British Sovereign to undertake the traditional round of State visits to European capitals. It was in his reign that the Kaiser-wrought blight on crowned heads set in. At its start there were three Republics in Europe; at its close, eighteen.

King Edward VIII was the most travelled monarch in history, albeit nearly all of it was done while he was Prince of Wales.

His late Majesty became personally known, as a young Prince, to West Indians, Australians and New Zealanders, and in later life to Canadians, South Africans, and others of the Commonwealth peoples along the way. Had health blessed him, he would have seen much more of them. But it was not health alone that intervened to cut down his contacts with foreign countries. The times of turmoil through which he reigned, first the Rome-Berlin Axis, then the Second World War, and after it the Cold War, left little outlet for Royal journeyings abroad and practically none for State ones.

Greatly to the late King's credit, therefore, was the manner in which he turned to account his visit to the United States in 1939. Their Majesties left a Europe in which anything might happen, with the crazed Fuehrer on the warpath. There was hesitation about the departure for Canada (first). But it turned out a truly *bon voyage*.

The three-day visit to President and Mrs. Roosevelt made history. King George VI became the first British monarch to set foot in the United States, which had been lost and fought for in part through the obstinacy of George III. The slightest indiscretion, and the "Mayor Thompsons" might have roared that the august visitor was currying favour with the design of dragging Americans into Europe's simmering cauldron.

The Americans noted a quiet, unassuming man with what they called a "helluva" job that he had never sought, and their generous hearts went out to "the King" and his winning Queen, who were "in on" the birth of that closer Anglo-American relationship which had blossomed into out-and-out alliance long before the reign ended.

The late King had no preparatory training in the foreign line. Even when his elder brother was learning languages abroad with tall tutor Hansell, Prince Albert was not there. His first departure from these shores was to the West Indies in 1913, as a cadet in the cruiser *Cumberland*. Happy days of football at Teneriffe and riding in a gymkhana in Barbados!

Then 1914. Whereas the Prince of Wales's military service took him to France and Italy, and laid the foundations of a knowledge of Europe, Prince Albert's duties took him first to the North Sea and later into the air. He finished on Lord Trenchard's staff at Nancy, and made his first official appearance on the Continent, riding on horseback (and in Air Force blue) beside King Albert and Queen Elisabeth on their delirious return to Brussels in November 1918.

The Royal marriage five years later gave the outside world its first view of the Duke of York on the screen—although there had been a highly filmable foreign occasion in 1922, when H.R.H. travelled to Belgrade, to act as "koom," or sponsor, at the wedding of King Alexander.

Real travels began in 1924, when the Duke and Duchess of York went on a long holiday to Kenya—the same whence their elder daughter was to fly home as Queen twenty-seven years later.

Three more years, and the Duke carried out his first great Imperial mission—the inauguration of the first Parliament at the new Australian capital, Canberra. Melba led the singing of the National Anthem.

The voyage on to New Zealand repaid in like coin, if only for showing that England did have another Prince—and one who had started a family. The ensuing eight years devolved on the one hand as a model of home life and on the other as a year-long round of public duties in the United Kingdom. There was little call for the Sovereign's second son to venture farther afield. The heir to the throne was still sailing or flying overseas and fulfilling any missions requiring presence on the Continent.

Then fateful 1936 changed everything. With the death of King George the world beyond Britain suddenly became aware of the Heir-Presumptive. For the first time the foreign Press told of the Duke who might be King and of his happy family life. With the Abdication at year's end the elevation became a reality and King George VI a world personage.

Few outside Britain envied the new monarch. Foreign reaction was that "the English must like kings, or this shock would mean the end of them." Recollect what a poor time it had continued to be for crowned heads, and that this was the high noon of Hitler and Mussolini, neither of whom had any use for kings.

In the Commonwealth countries, one or two of which had exercised a weighty influence during the Abdication crisis, there was a closer comprehension of the forces which militated in the new King's favour—such as a conscientious solidity, a happy home and the upholding of tradition.

"*Plus de feu d'artifice*" was a French comment I recall from those days, and true enough too. There may have been fireworks on May 12, 1937, but it was a quiet Coronation all the same. Indeed, the most surprising occurrence that year was when Ribbentrop gave the Nazi salute in Buckingham Palace.

Gradually foreigners recognised that the British had got back the kind of man who best suited them as monarch—modest, dutiful, godly and dignified. Yet that hardly stopped them from wondering how monarchy survived in highly industrialised, class-riven Britain, when it had ceased to exist in more pastoral climes. The best answer foreigners could find was that Britain went in for Royal presidents, but that was to have overlooked the symbolic influence of the Crown on five Continents.

The State visit to President Lebrun in 1938 did much to convince Parisians that *la Vielle Angleterre* was still herself. The visit was undertaken to revitalise the Entente and to revive French confidence in face of what amounted to a sustained Axis threat.

This turned out to be the only State visit the late King was ever to pay on the European mainland. Without a doubt it added to the warmth of the French Canadians when their Majesties crossed to Canada in the following year. For a month they travelled through Canada by train. Two unprecedented events marked their progress. In Ottawa the King gave in person the Royal assent to eight Bills in the Parliament of Canada—and in the same city he received eighty newspaper correspondents, photographers and members of the local Parliamentary Press Gallery.

The Second World War saw his late Majesty at his best among the people of Britain. It was particularly then that foreigners developed a genuine respect for the British Monarchy and appreciated better the value of the Crown symbol that alone held Dominions and Colonies together, which were separated by thousands of miles of—war.

The years 1943-44 brought what were to be the King's last visits to foreign countries and they were paid in abnormal times. They began with a flight to the armies in North Africa, flushed by recent victory. The troops looked upon their visitor as a link with home and gave him a boisterous welcome. The King delighted in the easy comradeship.

That tour extended from Gibraltar to Cairo and included a memorable call at Malta, safe at last in her glory. His appetite whetted to be out and about with his forces in the field, his Majesty landed in Normandy ten days after D-Day. It could only be a quick visit to Montgomery's headquarters, but it was 400 years since a reigning Sovereign of England, Henry VIII, had set foot on Norman soil to visit his armies.

GARDEN PARTY IN THE PARK AT BAGATELLE—A MEMORY OF 1938 WHEN KING GEORGE VI AND QUEEN ELIZABETH WERE THE GUESTS OF PRESIDENT LEBRUN: This garden party at Bagatelle, in the grounds of the Bois de Boulogne, was given by the Municipality of Paris, and one of the features of it was an open-air cabaret. The Park at Bagatelle is linked in history with the names of Marie Antoinette, the Comte d'Artois, and Napoleon I, but probably it had never before been the scene of a function at which one person—the Queen herself—attracted such unstinted admiration.

A more strenuous tour in war-torn Italy followed at once. By air to Naples; sleeping in a caravan at Alexander's camp; during nine days an extraordinary energy. The King was probably at that moment in the best health he had ever known.

The last visit of all to the Continent was to Eindhoven, the King this time sleeping in a captured caravan. He had stood in the Maginot Line, puzzled by the phoney war. Now he watched the Allies brace themselves for the leap into Germany.

With the coming of peace, the late King's thoughts journeyed to the Empire overseas. He wanted to visit India, but there were hindrances. Well, then, he would go to South Africa—had not the Premier, General Smuts, sent an invitation? And so it was off on the much-publicised tour of 100 days, the King and Queen and their daughters. The year, 1947.

Vast constitutional changes in the Imperial connection attended the closing years of the King's life. He ceased being Emperor of India, after "Dizzy's" "gift" to his "Faery Queen" had lasted seventy-two years. The Republic of India remained in the fold, though casting off allegiance to a monarch. Burma left the Commonwealth. Eire announced herself a sovereign independent republic, while maintaining light links with the Commonwealth. Mandated Palestine was bungled away. To balance things, Pakistan and Ceylon became Dominions.

King George VI looked for the last time on massed foreigners at the Olympic Games at Wembley, when fifty-nine nations mustered. That was in 1948. In the same year his Majesty planned the Australian and New Zealand tours which he was obliged to hand over to his elder daughter and son-in-law.

There remained the broadcast. If anything gave the lie to apparent returning health, it was the broken throatiness and shortage of breath at Christmas. King George VI had played his part in the world beyond Britain, and the consensus is that it was right well played in all the attendant circumstances.

THE SILVER WEDDING OF KING GEORGE VI AND QUEEN ELIZABETH—THE KING AND QUEEN KNEELING DURING THE MEMORABLE SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING IN ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL IN APRIL 1948: On the red plush stool in front of their Majesties was the Pearl Sword which the Lord Mayor of London handed to the King on arrival at Temple Bar. Kneeling behind the King and Queen were Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh. On the right were members of the College of Heralds who took part in the Cathedral procession. The silver-wedding celebrations, described by the Archbishop of Canterbury as "a great domestic festival for us all," began with the State drive from Buckingham Palace to the City, the King and Queen passing through multitudes of cheering people en route through Strand and Fleet Street to St. Paul's. Then within the Cathedral, accompanied by 1,000 of their subjects, they gave thanks for twenty-five years of ideally happy marriage.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE REIGN

THE SILVER-WEDDING DAY — PRESIDENT AURIOL'S VISIT — KING FREDRIK'S VISIT — INAUGURATING THE FESTIVAL OF BRITAIN—THE KING AND HIS GRANDSON

THE KING AND QUEEN DRIVING TOGETHER—TWO OF A THOUSAND OR MORE PICTURES OF THEIR MAJESTIES SEATED SIDE BY SIDE AS THEY DROVE AMONG THEIR PEOPLE DURING THE FIFTEEN-YEAR REIGN: *Left*—King George VI and Queen Elizabeth acknowledging the thunderous cheers as they drove down Fleet Street en route to St. Paul's on the morning of the twenty-fifth anniversary of their wedding. Throughout that memorable day the weather smiled upon the scenes of pageantry and colour in London's streets. *Right*—The King and Queen arriving at the Golden Gates entrance for the opening of the Royal Ascot meeting in 1949.

THE VISIT OF PRESIDENT AURIOL IN MARCH 1950 — KING GEORGE VI AND MADAME AURIOL, THE QUEEN AND PRESIDENT AURIOL, FOLLOWED BY PRINCESS ELIZABETH, AS THEY PASSED A GUARD OF HONOUR OF THE ROYAL MARINES BEFORE ENTERING THE PAINTED HALL AT THE ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE, GREENWICH: This State visit of the President of the French Republic was marked by three days of colourful pageantry and ceremony, but more than all that, there was a pleasant informality between the King and Queen and their guests which made the visit a very real contribution indeed to Anglo-French understanding.

KING GEORGE VI PROCLAIMS THE FESTIVAL OF BRITAIN—HIS MAJESTY, ACCOMPANIED BY THE QUEEN AND FOLLOWED BY PRINCESS MARGARET, LEAVING ST. PAUL'S AFTER SPEAKING FROM THE STEPS: This was indeed one of the highlights of the reign, and a truly brilliant send-off for the Festival, with all London in holiday mood. "Two world wars," declared the King, "have brought us grievous loss of life and treasure. Yet this is no time for despondency; for I see this Festival as a symbol of Britain's abiding courage and vitality."

THE DANISH ROYAL VISIT IN MAY 1951: King George VI and Queen Elizabeth with King Fredrik IX and Queen Ingrid on their arrival in London on the State visit which, as the King said at a Buckingham Palace banquet, symbolised the solemn bond uniting the people of the United Kingdom and Denmark. One of the outstanding events of this four-day Royal visit was the ceremony on the second day at St. George's Chapel, Windsor, where King Fredrik was installed as a Knight Companion of the Order of the Garter. King George VI, as Sovereign of the Order, invested King Fredrik.

KING GEORGE VI WITH PRINCE CHARLES, AND THE QUEEN WITH PRINCESS ANNE: This family photograph was taken at Buckingham Palace in November 1951 on the occasion of the third birthday of Prince Charles. This was also the first photograph of King George taken after his illness.

KING GEORGE'S LIFE IN BRIEF

A Specially Compiled Chronology from His Birth in 1895 to His Death in 1952

1895.—Prince Albert Edward Frederick Arthur George, second son of the Duke and Duchess of York (the future King George V and Queen Mary), was born at York Cottage, Sandringham, on December 14. At the time of his birth he was fourth in succession to the British Throne, then occupied by Victoria, his great-grandmother.

1896, 1897, 1898, 1899.—Years of infancy and happy childhood spent partly at York Cottage, Sandringham, and York House, St. James's Palace. His sister Mary was born in 1897.

1900.—The birth of Prince Henry (the future Duke of Gloucester). The illness of Queen Victoria developed at the end of the year.

1901.—Queen Victoria died on January 22. Grandfather proclaimed King as Edward VII. Father and mother left on Australian tour on March 15 to open first Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia. Stayed at Sandringham with brothers and sister under the care of King Edward and Queen Alexandra.

1902.—Education under a tutor, Mr. Hansell, assisted by a French tutor. The Coronation of Edward VII postponed from June, owing to illness, until August of the same year.

1903–1908.—Education continued under care of tutor.

1909.—January: entered the Naval Training College at Osborne. In July of that year his brother, Prince Edward (the future Edward VIII and Duke of Windsor), had the duty of showing the Czar round the Naval College.

1910.—The death of his grandfather King Edward VII. His father proclaimed King George V.

1911.—Coronation of his father, King George V. In July of that year his brother was invested as Prince of Wales with full ceremonial at Carnarvon Castle. Entered the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, where he spent two years.

1913.—Prince Albert went on his first cruise, to the West Indies, Canada and Newfoundland, in H.M.S. *Cumberland*. In September he joined H.M.S. *Collingwood* as midshipman.

1914.—When war broke out he was still in H.M.S. *Collingwood*, stationed at Scapa Flow. Operation for appendicitis.

1915.—In February he rejoined his ship.

1916.—Took part, in H.M.S. *Collingwood*, in the Battle of Jutland, and was mentioned in despatches. The *Collingwood* was heavily engaged and, like so many vessels in the action, fought a private battle of her own, her opponent being a German light cruiser. Earl Jellicoe's despatch on the battle mentioned Prince Albert and commended him for his courage.

1917.—Operation for duodenal ulcer. Joined Royal Naval Air Service.

1918.—Having served as a ground officer in the R.N.A.S. he was gazetted Captain in the newly-established R.A.F., serving on the staff of Sir Hugh Trenchard in France.

1919.—In August qualified as pilot and was promoted Squadron Leader, later becoming Wing Commander. Entered Trinity College, Cambridge, with Prince Henry.

1920.—King George V, in his Birthday Honours List, made him Duke of York, Earl of Inverness and Baron Killarney. On June 23 he took his seat in the Lords. Partnered by Sir Louis Greig, he won the men's doubles in the R.A.F. lawn tennis championships.

1921.—Supervised the arrangements for the first of his boys' camps.

1922.—The marriage of his sister, Princess Mary, to Viscount Lascelles, eldest son of the Earl of Harewood.

1923.—Betrothal to Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon, daughter of the 14th Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne; and marriage at Westminster Abbey on April 26.

1924.—Their visit to East Africa. Shooting big game and living under canvas. The journey down the White Nile to Khartoum and Port Sudan.

1925.—President of the Wembley Exhibition.

1926.—The birth of Princess Elizabeth (the future Queen Elizabeth II) on April 21, at 17, Bruton Street, the London home of the Strathmores.

1927.—In January he set out on an Imperial mission culminating in the opening of the new Australian Parliament Buildings at Canberra.

1928.—He acted as member of the Commission during the illness of King George V.

1930.—His visit to Rome for the wedding of the Prince of Piedmont.

1935.—The Silver Jubilee of King George V.

1936.—Death of King George V. With his three brothers he kept the vigil in Westminster Hall. The Abdication on December 11 of King Edward VIII. The Duke's Accession as King George VI. He broadcast a message to the peoples of the Empire, dedicating his life, and that of his Queen, to their service.

1937.—The Coronation in Westminster Abbey on May 12.

1938.—The Royal visit to France.

1939.—The visit of the French President. The Royal tour of Canada and visit to the U.S.A.

1940.—Buckingham Palace bombed while the King and Queen were in residence.

1942.—Visits to Scapa Flow, the Headquarters of Combined Operations, Coventry and Birmingham, Northern Ireland and North Wales.

1943.—His decision to award the Stalingrad Sword of Honour. On May 19 the first great Thanksgiving Service at St. Paul's. Visited his troops in North Africa and called at Malta.

1944.—A flying bomb hit Buckingham Palace. On June 16, ten days after D-Day, the King visited his forces in Normandy. The King's visit to Italy.

1945.—On May 8, the King and his family waved to VE-Day crowds from the Palace.

1946.—The Victory Parade held on June 8.

1947.—With the Queen and the Princesses he travelled to South Africa on the battleship *Vanguard*. Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh were married on November 20.

1948.—The celebration of the King's Silver Wedding and the birth, on November 14, of Prince Charles. On November 23 it was announced that the King was suffering from an obstruction to the circulation of his right leg.

1949.—On March 12 an operation (lumbar sympathectomy) was carried out.

1950.—The State visits to England of President and Mme. Auriol; and of Queen Juliana.

1951.—The King's Speech on May 3 from the steps of St. Paul's opening the Festival of Britain.

May 24.—The King was seen by his doctors and was confined to his room suffering from influenza.

June 1.—A bulletin disclosed that there was a small area of catarrhal infection in the lung.

September.—An operation for lung resection was performed on the King in September.

December 9.—Prayers of thanksgiving for the King's recovery.

December 22.—The King left London to spend Christmas at Sandringham.

1952: January 31.—His last public appearance when he saw Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh off from London Airport.

February 6.—The King's death.

THE FIRST CRISIS IN THE KING'S LIFE

Abdication of His Brother

Both as Prince Albert and as Duke of York; both as a bachelor and a happily-married man, King George's life was untroubled and often uneventful. Then in 1936, within a few months of the death of his revered father, King George V, England was plunged into a constitutional crisis. On December 10 it became known that Edward VIII had given up the burden of his throne and that the Duke of York had consented to take his place. At 3.42 p.m. Parliament was told officially. The end of another reign was at hand; the great Royal drama was over, and for the new King there lay ahead the burdens of the Crown.

THE ACCOLADE—KING GEORGE VI DECORATES WAR HEROES AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE: The King knighting Air Marshal Arthur Barratt, who commanded the Royal Air Force in France during the time of the evacuation. Throughout the Second World War, in addition to his State duties, the King found time for large numbers of Investitures, no fewer than 32,000 people being decorated at the Palace between 1940 and 1945. In the background is seen the Lord Chamberlain.

THE SECOND CRISIS IN THE KING'S LIFE

The Onset of His Malady

While in South Africa in 1947 it was noted that King George VI was not standing up to the strain of the tour with his accustomed buoyancy, some of the photographs taken during the tour being distinctly revealing. In November 1948 these suspicions were confirmed when the general public heard that the King was suffering from an obstruction to the circulation in the right leg. From that day onwards the King's health was a matter of grave concern to his family, his doctors, and the people of the Commonwealth. From that day uncertainty began to change to certainty in the minds of the King's doctors.

THE LAST PHASES OF THE KING'S REIGN

BEFORE AND AFTER THE SEVERE OPERATION LAST AUTUMN; THE GRAVE PUBLIC CONCERN FOR THE KING'S HEALTH

SEPTEMBER 15, 1951—THE KING RETURNS TO LONDON AGAIN A WEEK AFTER HE HAD INTERRUPTED HIS BALMORAL HOLIDAY BY PAYING A VISIT TO A LONDON RADIOLOGIST: This picture was taken at London Airport on the King's arrival from Scotland, a flight that was made despite bad weather. In command of the Viking was Air Commodore Fielden, Captain of the King's Flight. It soon became known that as a result of the Wimpole Street examination made the week before, it would be necessary for the King to undergo a lung operation, structural changes having taken place in the King's lung. On September 21 a bulletin was issued saying that the King had been advised, and had consented, to undergo an operation. This operation for lung resection took place on September 23.

SEPTEMBER 8, 1951—THE PHOTOGRAPH WHICH AROUSED DEEP CONCERN: King George VI is seen acknowledging the crowds from his car as he drove to Buckingham Palace from Euston Station on September 8. Within an hour of his arrival the King had driven from Buckingham Palace to Upper Wimpole Street to the consulting-rooms of Dr. George Cordiner, the radiologist. Later in the day he boarded a Viking aircraft at London Airport and flew to Dyce Airport, Aberdeenshire, in order to resume his interrupted holiday at Balmoral.

NOVEMBER 30, 1951—THE KING, CONVALESCENT AFTER THE OPERATION, LEAVES BUCKINGHAM PALACE WITH THE QUEEN TO SPEND A WEEK-END AT THE ROYAL LODGE, WINDSOR GREAT PARK: There was general thankfulness that the King had got over the period of post-operational danger, and it seemed that he was well on the road to a remarkable recovery.

A SUNDAY OF DEEP ANXIETY—PART OF THE GREAT CROWD WHICH GATHERED OUTSIDE BUCKINGHAM PALACE ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, WHEN MR. CLEMENT PRICE THOMAS (LATER SIR CLEMENT), ONE OF BRITAIN'S FOREMOST CHEST SURGEONS, CARRIED OUT AN OPERATION FOR LUNG RESECTION: Mr. Price Thomas performed the operation on the King in the morning, but it was not until 4.30 in the afternoon that the first bulletin was issued to the Press. At 5 p.m. the bulletin was posted on the Palace railings and the crowd, by then 4,000 strong, surged forward to read it. Many people waited quietly hour by hour in the vicinity of the Palace.

The Last Phases of the King's Reign

THE NATION'S CONCERN OVER THE KING'S ILLNESS

THE VIGIL OF THE CROWDS OUTSIDE BUCKINGHAM PALACE AT THE TIME OF THE OPERATION FOR LUNG RESECTION: *Left*—This picture was taken when the crowd was waiting for the arrival of Princess Margaret, who flew from Aberdeenshire to be near her father. *Right*—Another picture taken during the vigil. As the days went by and the news became reassuring the crowds grew less, but throughout the first ten days after the operation there were always people outside the Palace.

IN SILENT PRAYER—MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION AT ST. PAUL'S PRAYING FOR THE KING'S RECOVERY AT THE TIME OF HIS OPERATION : Churches all over Britain offered special prayers for the King on the Sunday on which the operation took place. *On right*—PUTTING UP THE BULLETIN BOARD : Later a queue was marshalled by the police, and throughout the evening of Sunday, September 23, the people steadily filed past. The bulletin was in a gilded frame, with lettering of black crayon.

CROWDS SURGING ROUND THE RAILINGS TO READ THE FIRST BULLETIN POSTED ON THE AFTERNOON OF THE OPERATION : The bulletin had eight signatories, and declared, "The King underwent an operation for lung resection this morning. Whilst anxiety must remain for some days, his Majesty's immediate post-operative condition is satisfactory." On October 20 it was disclosed that the King had been up for a few hours each day during the previous week. It was not until November 30, however, that his Majesty left Buckingham Palace to spend a week-end at Windsor. On December 22 the King left London to spend Christmas at Sandringham.

The Last Phases of the King's Reign

AT DRURY LANE; GOOD-BYES AT LONDON AIRPORT

THE FIRST NIGHT OUT SINCE HIS OPERATION: King George VI, wearing a heavy overcoat, necessitated by the bulky nature of the electrically-heated waistcoat which he wore following his operation, seen leaving the Royal car on arrival at Drury Lane to see a performance of the musical play, *South Pacific*. This Royal Family theatre party was held on the eve of the departure of Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh for Kenya.

LEAVING DRURY LANE AFTER THE SHOW: The King and Queen, followed by Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret. There were 2,750 people in the theatre for this 104th performance of the musical play, *South Pacific*, and when the King and Queen arrived in the Royal box the audience stood and cheered for nearly two minutes. During the interval the Royal party received Mary Martin, Wilbur Evans and Ray Walston. The Queen told Mr. Evans: "I thought this was the nicest possible way of spending our last evening together." The whole audience turned to face the King and cheer when, at the end of the show, the company and the audience sang the National Anthem. Even that was not the end of the King's evening for he returned to Clarence House for an hour, anxious to spend as much time as possible in the company of his daughter before her departure.

THE LAST PUBLIC APPEARANCE OF KING GEORGE VI—HIS MAJESTY GOES TO LONDON AIRPORT TO SAY GOOD-BYE TO HIS DAUGHTER, PRINCESS ELIZABETH, AND HIS SON-IN-LAW, THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH, AT THE START OF THE ROYAL TOUR: *Left*—King George, the Queen and Princess Margaret arriving at the airport. *Right*—The King talking to the Queen. Most of the pictures taken on this occasion showed that the King was looking well, but this particular photograph indicates the heavy strain of the occasion. The King was extremely cheerful, however, and after inspecting the airliner in which the Princess and the Duke were to travel, he told Sir Miles Thomas: "This is a magnificent airliner. A modern aircraft is certainly a lot different to the stick-and-canvas ones I used to fly."

THE KING'S ILLNESSES THROUGH THE YEARS

From Youth to Middle Age He Overcame Grave Disabilities in the Fulfilment of His Duty

BY HALLIDAY SUTHERLAND

(Author of "The Arches of the Years")

NEWS of the death of King George VI came as a shock to the nation and the world. To the medical profession it was not altogether unexpected. Doctors glean more than laymen from the brief statement of facts in a medical bulletin. Moreover, from his own observation and from the history of cases recorded by others, a doctor may speculate with more or less success about the future course of a particular malady. Of this no doctor can be certain and none should put a term to life. This is expressed in the Spanish proverb: "It is better to be condemned to death by a doctor than by a judge."

Apart from illnesses the King was handicapped by some physical disabilities. These he overcame by strength of will and moral courage. As a youth he lacked a good physique. Yet he learned to play tennis, and played it well enough to reach Wimbledon. He became a good golfer. With a gun he was among the twelve best shots in Britain. After his accession, at the age of forty-one, he overcame his natural shyness and a nervous impediment in speech. Then millions who never knew him learnt from the sound of his voice that this was a man whose goodness, kindliness and sense of duty none could question.

The King's first serious illness was appendicitis. This occurred within the first three weeks of World War I, when, as Prince Albert, he was serving in H.M.S. *Collingwood* with the Grand Fleet at Scapa Flow. He was brought to London, where the appendix was removed. He was then nineteen. After a spell of light duty at the Admiralty, he returned to the Grand Fleet in January 1915. At the Battle of Jutland he was in charge of one of the gun-turrets on H.M.S. *Collingwood*. His appendix had been removed, but symptoms persisted, and he suffered from recurrent attacks of abdominal pain. Again and again he was sent ashore to the hospital at Scapa Flow, and returned to his ship as soon as the pain subsided. This went on until 1917, when he was found to have a duodenal ulcer. In November of that year there was a second operation, and after this he made a complete recovery.

The second serious illness was diagnosed in December 1948. The King, after walking a short distance, had acute pain in the muscles of the right leg. His right foot was often cold and numb. These are the symptoms of Buerger's disease, otherwise known as *arteritis obliterans*. Every artery has three coats—outer, middle and inner. The middle coat consists of muscle tissue which may contract or may relax. When it contracts less blood will pass, and when it relaxes more blood will pass through the artery. When the muscle is replaced by hard fibres the condition is called *arterio sclerosis*, or hardened arteries.

The inner coat of an artery is smooth and next the blood-stream. When the inner coat becomes thickened, less blood will flow through the artery because its gauge has been reduced. If the thickening continues the artery will cease to be a tube and no blood will pass. The artery as an artery has been obliterated. This is analogous to what sometimes happens in a hot water-pipe. If the water be hard, then calcium salts are deposited on the inner wall of the pipe until eventually the pipe is blocked and no water can pass.

In Buerger's disease the thickening of the inner coat of the arteries reduces the blood supply to the foot. All the affected area lacks nourishment and oxygen. This may cause gangrene. In that event, the only hope of saving the patient's life is to amputate the leg above the knee-joint.

The King was advised to have a prolonged rest. In March 1949 he underwent an operation for lumbar sympathectomy. At the small of the back on each side of the spine behind the abdomen is a bundle, or plexus, of nerves. These are neither motor nor sensory nerves, and are not under the control of the will. They are part of the sympathetic nervous system. In response to the needs of the body they transmit impulses which cause the muscles in the arteries of the lower limbs to contract. Cutting the nerves abolishes contraction of these arteries. Consequently, more blood will pass through them. For that reason these nerves are cut in Buerger's disease. In the case of the King the nerves on the right side were cut. This caused an immediate improvement in the condition of the right foot. He was soon up and about.

The operation of lumbar sympathectomy is not a cure, but only a palliative. In some cases the relief may last indefinitely, but in others the disease progresses in the arteries first affected. It may also attack other arteries, including the coronary arteries which supply the muscles of the heart with arterial blood. When these are affected a blood clot forms and death may be instantaneous. That is something which no one can foresee. It was of this that King George VI died. Overwork may have made him liable to Buerger's disease. He certainly had been overworked from the date of his accession.

Only those who have undertaken a long series of public engagements, such as an overseas lecture tour, can realise the mental and physical strain of too many lunches, dinners, receptions, speeches and conversations with strangers. No subject outside Bedlam would wish to take on the duties of our Royal family. They deserve more leisure, and they should be spared the publicity that is only welcomed by film-stars. At times they have been denied an elementary human right—to marry as they wish.

The King's third serious illness probably began on March 2, 1951, when an announcement, as distinct from a medical bulletin, from Buckingham Palace said that his Majesty was confined to his room by a chill. On March 15 it was stated that he had recovered, but by reason of the inclement weather would not attend the Rugby match between England and Scotland at Twickenham.

Two months later, on May 15, the King was confined to his room by a mild attack of influenza. Thirteen days later it was announced that he was better but would not attend the Derby.

The first medical bulletin was issued from Buckingham Palace on June 1. His Majesty had been confined to his room during the past week with influenza. There was a small area of catarrhal inflammation in the lung, but the constitutional disturbance was slight. A further bulletin, of June 4, stated that, although the King's general condition had improved, the catarrhal inflammation in the lung had not entirely disappeared. A period of complete rest would be essential for recovery and his Majesty had accordingly cancelled all public engagements for at least four weeks. In another bulletin, of June 6, it was stated that the King's progress, both in the local and general condition, continued to be satisfactory.

To the medical profession "catarrhal inflammation" meant that X-rays had shown a lung shadow, probably due to an atypical pneumonia. This is a small patch of pneumonia, often without symptoms. The patient may feel in perfect health and the stethoscope may reveal nothing unusual in the breath sounds. An atypical pneumonia disappears within a few weeks or months. A series of radiographs are therefore taken at intervals of a few weeks. An increase in the shadow would indicate a more serious disease.

THE CALLERS AT THE PALACE—THE LONG, SILENT QUEUE SLOWLY FILING INTO BUCKINGHAM PALACE IN ORDER TO LEAVE MESSAGES OF SYMPATHY IN THE DAYS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF KING GEORGE VI: Court mourning for the King will last for sixteen weeks, ending on Whit Sunday.

On the night of September 7 the King travelled from Balmoral to London by train to have another radiograph. The journey caused some ill-informed comment. Were there no X-rays in Aberdeen? The answer is that to compare a series of radiographs they should all be taken with the same X-ray set and under identical conditions.

On September 18 a bulletin signed by nine doctors was issued from Buckingham Palace. This stated that radiology and bronchoscopy had shown structural changes in the lung. To the medical profession this meant carcinoma. In bronchoscopy a straight steel tube is passed down the windpipe so that the larger bronchial tubes may be seen.

On Sunday, September 23, the King underwent an operation for resection of the left lung. This operation is so serious that the patient is given blood transfusion before it begins. The chances of death during the operation or within the next two weeks are about one in ten. The King made an uneventful recovery, but no one can foretell what will happen after the operation. I know of two patients, one in Britain, the other in Spain, who are alive and well three years later. On the other hand, a medical friend died from secondary growths in the brain six months after the operation. Here, be it said, that in the case of the King the malady was diagnosed as early as possible.

King George VI died from coronary thrombosis on February 6, 1952. He died during sleep in the early hours of the morning, when "the vital tide is at its lowest ebb"—a peaceful end, which had no terrors for a brave man who had feared God.

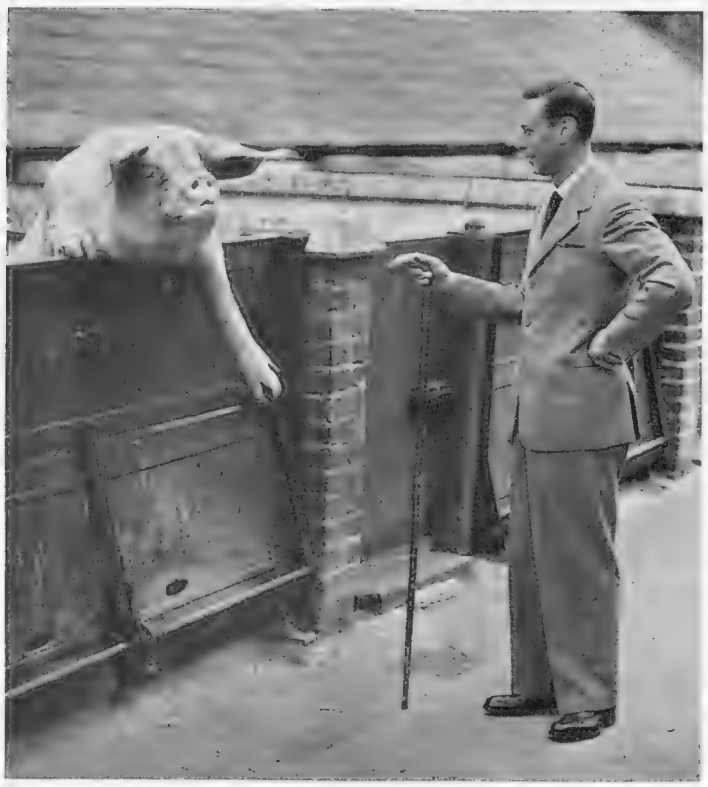
KING GEORGE VI LIKED GAMES, AND HE PLAYED MOST OF THEM WELL : In this picture, taken in 1924, when he was Duke of York, the King is seen playing golf with Mr. Frank Hodges, M.P., at Ton Pentre, in South Wales. The Duke was wearing a loose-fitting Fair Isle sweater. In 1930 the Duke became captain of the Royal and Ancient Club at St. Andrews, and a year or two later was playing off a handicap of eight.

THE QUEEN MEETS DON BRADMAN, SKIPPER OF THE AUSTRALIAN TOURING TEAM IN 1948 : The King and Queen visited Lord's on the second day of the match between Australia and Middlesex in July 1948. It was recorded in the pages of "The Sphere" at the time that their Majesties talked with Bradman about the forthcoming Royal Tour of Australia—the tour that was to be twice postponed and never to take place during the King's reign.

KING GEORGE

Beyond Question the Best All-Rounder

By BRIAN



THE KING AS A WARTIME FARMER : His Majesty admiring a handsome specimen on his Windsor farm in 1942. The King was at great pains during the war years to develop agriculture on his vast estates, as witness his experiment in flax-growing at Sandringham.

A RAINY DAY AT WINDSOR : The King and Queen with delegates attending the International Conference of Agricultural Producers when they visited the Royal Farms at Windsor during 1946.

KING GEORGE THE SIXTH was, in the best sense of the word, a sportsman, and not a mere player of games. But he did play games very well indeed. It would be an exaggeration to say that he had a natural genius for any particular game, but he did have real, natural ability for ball games, a very quick eye and supple wrists, and he was beyond question the best all-rounder of this or any other Royal family.

As a boy at the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, he showed distinct promise as a slow left-arm bowler. But, though he was always interested in the game and in later years liked to watch it, his heart was not in cricket and he did not play much, because he became passionately interested in lawn tennis. Here, too, he was left-handed. To lawn tennis, as a young man, he devoted many hours of practice (hours which, had they been devoted to cricket, would almost certainly have made him a first-class player), and he became an accomplished doubles player. In 1920, with Sir Louis Greig as partner, he won the Royal Air Force Doubles. And, in 1926, again in partnership with Sir Louis Greig, he played in the Doubles at Wimbledon. H. Roper Barrett and A. W. Gore were no mean opponents to meet in the first round, and he and Greig lost in straight sets. But it requires lawn tennis ability of a high order to play at Wimbledon, and there can be little doubt that, had he been in a position to get much tournament practice, he would have gone much farther at Wimbledon.

That, indeed, is the story throughout his games-playing career. He was a good squash player, who might easily have been a very good one. He was a good golfer, with a handicap of 10. But there were days when he played to a much lower figure. He hit a long ball from the tee, and Sandy Herd, who thought a lot of his ability as a golfer, described him as "steady and accurate." He might have become a very good golfer had he had the time that very good golfers require.

But I do not think that the idea of becoming a very good player of any game (except possibly lawn tennis) ever entered his head. Certainly he liked games, and he played most of them at one time or another, and most of them well enough. For instance, though he had never played soccer with any serious intention at all—I believe that he played for a cadet team once or twice when a Naval Cadet, but not in any serious games—it was noticeable at his boys' camps (the Duke of York's Camp) that he knew very well how to kick a football. It was also evident at these camps, which he so much enjoyed, that he had a great curiosity about games of all kinds, and liked to try his hand at them. In 1929 he played in an ice-hockey match at the London Ice Club, and emerged with credit.

His one other game was polo. This he played with great courage, but not, it must be admitted, with great skill. Here, again, had he had the time to practise, he might well have become a very fair player. But of all games, one had the impression that this appealed to him the least.

But he was good on a horse. His father, who knew a great deal about horses and was an excellent judge both of thoroughbreds and heavy horses, and had, as a young Naval officer at Malta, played polo in good company, loved to ride. King George V loved his position as Squire of Sandringham as much as anything, and in that position gave such warm and constant support to the West Norfolk Hounds that there was even a movement in Norfolk that he should be asked to become Master. Indeed, it was only the fact that he was already King that stopped it. It

PLAYING IN THE R.A.F. DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS AT QUEEN'S CLUB : The King (then Duke of York) volleying from mid-court during one of his matches. He was a left-hander of above average skill. With his friend Sir Louis Greig as partner, he achieved a notable triumph in these championships. They also appeared in the Wimbledon Championships in 1926.

was natural, therefore, that he should see that his sons were brought up to horses.

Both the elder boys got their early education in horsemanship with the West Norfolk Hounds. The First World War put a stop to progress for the duration, for the Prince of Wales was in France (and mostly with the infantry) and the Duke of York was at sea. But very soon after the war there was a full-scale Royal invasion of the hunting field. They hunted mostly with the Pytchley, the Quorn, the Fernie and the Beaufort, and the present Duke of Windsor very soon

THE ROYAL RACEGOER: The King followed personally the fortunes of his racehorses. Captain Boyd-Rochfort, the Freemason Lodge trainer, gained his first victory for the King with Open Warfare at Newmarket in 1943. He has trained some fifty-five winners in the Royal Colours, including Hypericum, winner of the 1,000 Guineas in 1946. Other good horses of the King's were Rising Light and Above Board. Her Majesty the Queen took an increasing interest in steeplechasing.

PRESENTING THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION CUP: King George VI handing the trophy to Joe Mercer, the Arsenal captain, who led the "Gunners" to a 2-0 victory over Liverpool in the 1950 final at Wembley, after a match of fast and brilliant football. The Queen presented the medals to both teams, and inadvertently gave Mercer a loser's medal. The King was a regular visitor to Cup Finals during his reign, also to Rugby internationals. In 1948 he attended the Rugby League Final.

AS A SPORTSMAN

of This or Any Other Royal Family

ESEY-FITZGERALD

quired a national reputation for reckless riding hich was not, perhaps, altogether deserved. King George the Sixth acquired no such reputation. The public, not unnaturally, since it was always he name of the elder son that was in the papers, doubt that the Prince of Wales was the horseman of the family. But the Duke of York, with that quiet persistence which was so characteristic of him, acquired a seat that was nearly perfect, a gift always denied to his elder brother. A good hat the essential foundation of good horsemanship. King George VI, though never a brilliant rider, was certainly a better one than the Duke of Windsor, who was sometimes brilliant. He, however, approach the Duke of Gloucester, cavalryman with the cavalryman's sure ast y of his mount and the quiet certainty f th expert.

I g George VI's interest in horses did not id th the riding of them. Though he never low l racing to take as important a place in s li as it had in the life of his grandfather (it ast remembered that the conditions governing ve gnty had changed enormously since lw l VII's day), and though he was not so od judge of a thoroughbred as his father, he ok very thorough interest in the Royal racing tab hment. He had, too, a clear vision of the lue nd importance of racing in the national e a l economy. There can be no doubt that e pl ed a big part in the decision to continue cin through the war. There was a strong sir n certain quarters to stop the sport alto- the The King, by attending meetings and by nni his own horses, made it plain that he did t a ce with the short-term view of racing.

B ish bloodstock breeders, and the industry a hole, owe him more than perhaps they dis For he clearly knew the value, as a tion l asset, of the bloodstock industry and hi patronage of the National Stud did a great al t promote it. And that, moreover, in the erk days of our history. The surprise when e A a Khan sold Blenheim in 1936 to breeders the United States has probably been forgotten, t t e astonishment and dismay and, indeed, ger, aroused by the news that he had sold, 19 (not the brightest moment in the last r), both Bahram (the first Triple Crown winner nce 1903) and Mahmoud (winner of the Derby the record time) to American breeders will not ve been forgotten. And it was at this time at, in addition to his own horses, his Majesty gan to lease horses from the National Stud. so doing he drew the attention of the racing blic to an institution they knew very little out, and at the same time his patronage couraged other owners to lease horses.

King George VI began his own stud with some enty mares, all of which, with the exception Feola, were disappointing. But there are now ne really promising mares at Hampton Court, d the stud looks to have a bright future, particularly perhaps in the breeding of stayers. turally, it was in the horses bred at Hampton urt that his Majesty took the deepest interest. d the Royal stud has produced some very good imals for him: Hypericum, winner of the One housand Guineas in 1946; Rising Light, second the St. Leger in 1945; Angelola, second in the Oaks in 1948; Avila, winner of the Coronation Stakes in 1949; Above Board, winner of the Cesarewitch in 1950. It should be very interesting to watch the stud career of Avila, for this daughter of Hyperion is also stoutly bred on her dam's side.

But the greatest successes in the Royal colours came from horses leased from the National Stud. Perhaps the most promising of them all, Blue Train, proved a disappointment. He was jarred when winning the Newmarket Stakes on firm going, and never recovered his action. He had to be taken out of the Derby, for which he had been second favourite, and Gordon Richards rode Tudor Minstrel instead. It was a very real disappointment for, both on breeding and looks, Blue Train had the stamp of a Derby winner.

His Majesty did not win the Derby, and it was a great disappointment to him that he did not. Big Game won the Two Thousand Guineas in most convincing style, starting favourite at 11 to 8 on, and beating Watling Street by four lengths. But in the Derby, ridden by Gordon Richards, he was beaten into sixth place by Watling Street. Probably a mile and a quarter was his distance, though there are those who regard him as an unlucky loser. Sun Chariot, also leased, won the One Thousand Guineas, starting favourite at evens, and so easily that no one had any doubt that she would win the Oaks. For this race she started at 4 to 1 on, and won just as convincingly. Later in the year, she defeated Watling Street in the St. Leger, which race she also won with great ease. The year 1942, with its four classic wins in the Royal colours, was the best for the Royal racing establishment since Diamond Jubilee's Triple Crown in 1900, even though the Derby was missed. I am not alone in thinking that Sun Chariot could have equalled the feat of Signorinetta in 1908 and taken both Oaks and Derby. She was an outstanding filly in every way.

Although King George VI never equalled the *annus mirabilis* of Edward VII (when, in 1900, in his last year as Prince of Wales, he won the Grand National, the Two Thousand Guineas, the Derby, the St. Leger and the Newmarket Stakes), his horses carried him to the head of the list of winning owners in 1942, which was the first time Royalty had been there since 1900. He won more Classic races than his father, and he ran his racing establishment on the strictest business principles, in marked contrast to the rather easy-going methods of his grandfather's day. His racing establishment did not lose money.

But shooting was his great interest in sport. His father had been a superb shot in an era of really great shots, and King George VI inherited most of his ability. I do not think that he was quite as good a marksman as his father (though I have heard men say that he was better), but he was certainly one of the best all-round shots in the British Isles, certainly in the first half-dozen, and I do not think that anyone would deny that he was a greater stylist than his father. His stance and swing were very similar, but he had a greater grace of movement.

He was, too, a very fine big-game shot. He sent trophies to the British Sporting Exhibition,

SHOOTING WAS AN APTITUDE WHICH THE KING INHERITED FROM HIS FATHER: This picture, as the fashions proclaim, was taken in the early '20's; it shows the King and Queen, as Duke and Duchess, at a shooting party at Newmarket. King George was a magnificent shot, but pressure of duties forced him to cut down almost annually the days he could spend on the moors at Balmoral and in the woods at Sandringham and Windsor.

which was organised by *The Field*, and I remember his great interest—and the clear sparkle in his eye—as he walked round that exhibition, and his quite remarkable knowledge of natural history. Both his questions and his remarks showed a close observation of animal life and a very keen interest in the subject. He was, too, keenly interested in the exhibition of guns and rifles and pistols, and here again the interest was that of the expert. It was a joy to see him handle a weapon.

There were few keener wildfowlers than he. Wildfowling is not a sport for the weak. It demands great stamina and a great knowledge of the ways of birds in different weathers. King George VI spent many hours on the bleak saltings of the Norfolk coast after the geese. He was probably at his happiest then, and at duck-flighting. And that is not easy shooting.

But he was a great shot in all circumstances, whether at flighting or at driven birds (no man could bring a high pheasant down more cleanly) or walking up over dogs. It was fitting that the day before his death he should have been shooting at Sandringham. On that day he shot nine hares and brought down a high pigeon (by no means an easy bird) perfectly cleanly. It was fitting that he should have spent his last day in the clean Norfolk air, enjoying with his friends his favourite sport.

COMING TO REST AFTER A FLIGHT ACROSS HALF THE WORLD FOLLOWING THE NEWS OF THE DEATH OF KING GEORGE VI: The B.O.A.C. Argonaut *Atalanta*, which had taken Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh to Kenya the week before, seen on touching-down at London Airport at the conclusion of the return flight of 4,000 miles. When the Royal aircraft came to rest, the first to go aboard was the Queen's uncle, the Duke of Gloucester, who was followed by Sir Alan Lascelles. The Duke bore letters for the Queen, heavily black-edged in token of mourning. When the Queen emerged from the aircraft to meet the waiting Privy Councillors, she did not omit to turn and shake hands with members of the *Atalanta* crew.

THE NEW QUEEN EMERGES FROM THE B.O.A.C. AIRLINER AT JOURNEY'S END: As she descended to set foot for the first time as Sovereign on English soil the Queen was greeted by the Premier, Mr. Churchill, and other members of the Privy Council.

QUEEN ELIZABETH II LEAVES FOR SANDRINGHAM BY CAR: After the Queen's accession had been proclaimed in London with due pomp and pageantry, the Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, left Clarence House by car for Sandringham. When the Rolls-Royce arrived outside Clarence House its blinds were drawn, but on the Queen's orders they were raised.

The HOME-COMING of QUEEN ELIZABETH II

The New Queen Returns to Her Capital

On right—

THE SOMBRE HOME-COMING OF THE QUEEN AND HER HUSBAND: This was the scene at London Airport as the Queen prepared to enter the Royal car, which was drawn up near the airliner which had brought her back from Africa. Both at London Airport and in London the public, who might have wished to show their sympathy, took as their guide Mr. Churchill's suggestion that large gatherings should be avoided

THE PUBLIC PROCLAMATION OF THE ACCESSION OF THE NEW SOVEREIGN, HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II, IS READ IN THE PRESENCE OF THE YEOMAN WARDERS AT THE TOWER OF LONDON: The Governor, Colonel E. H. Carkeet James, reading the historic document on the Green in the heart of the Tower. The Yeomen wore wide black armbands on their red frock-coats, but on their garters and on the buckles of their black patent shoes they wore red, white and blue ribbons. At the end of the Proclamation the Yeomen raised their hats and in unison said "Amen." The Honourable Artillery Company fired a 62-gun salute.

LONDON PROCLAIMS THE NEW QUEEN

THE CEREMONIES AT THE TOWER AND AT TEMPLE BAR

For a few hours on the morning of Friday, February 8, the solemnity lightened, the flags were run up to their full height on the masts, and, with the Proclamation of the new Queen's accession, a momentary note of rejoicing was interspersed between the long-drawn mourning rites for the late King George VI.

This was the first occasion of pageantry in the Queen's reign. The Proclamation was made at six points in London, outside St. James's Palace, at Charing Cross and Temple Bar, from the steps of the Royal Exchange, at the Tower of London, and from the balcony of the Middlesex Guildhall, Westminster. At the first four of these six points the proclamations were read by the Queen's Officers of Arms. At the same time Royal salutes of artillery carried the tidings far and wide among the citizens. Great crowds gathered in Trafalgar Square and lined the Strand and Fleet Street to watch the passage of the Queen's Officers of Arms from St. James's Palace to the heart of the City. At the Law Courts the Kings of Arms, the Heralds, and Pursuivants halted, and, while the trumpets played, one of the Pursuivants advanced to the barrier, demanding "entrance into the City of London in order to proclaim her Royal Majesty Queen Elizabeth II."

THE PROCLAMATION AT THE JUNCTION OF FLEET STREET AND CHANCERY LANE: Norroy King of Arms (Sir Gerald Wollaston) reading from the document after her Majesty's Officers of Arms had been granted entrance to the City.

COLONEL E. H. CARKEET JAMES READS THE ACCESSION PROCLAMATION: The Governor of the Tower of London at the ceremony on Tower Green.

THE FIRST PUBLIC PROCLAMATION OF THE ACCESSION OF HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II—GARTER KING OF ARMS, SIR GEORGE BELLEW, READING THE PROCLAMATION FROM THE BALCONY OF ST. JAMES'S PALACE, OVERLOOKING FRIARY COURT: On Sir George's left is the Earl Marshal, the Duke of Norfolk, whose official task it is to control State Ceremonial, receiving a traditional payment of £20 per annum. Also in the picture are other Officers at Arms who, at varying points in the City, played their part in the Proclamation ceremonies which for an hour lightened the solemnity of the mourning capital. Everywhere in London the Proclamation was in the same terms, beginning with the words: "Whereas it has pleased Almighty God to call to His mercy our late Sovereign Lord King George VI of blessed and glorious memory by whose decease the Crown is solely and rightfully come to the high and mighty Princess Elizabeth Alexandra Mary."

LONDON PROCLAIMS THE NEW QUEEN

THE CEREMONIES AT ST. JAMES'S PALACE AND IN THE HEART OF THE CITY

On left—

THE FIRST OCCASION OF PAGEANTRY OF THE QUEEN'S REIGN: This was a general view of the scene in Friary Court, St. James's Palace, as Garter King of Arms read the accession Proclamation. At the end of the balcony stood two State trumpeters, and right in the centre were the Kings of Arms, Heralds, Pursuivants and Sergeants at Arms. With this row of gorgeously-apparelled figures were the Duke of Norfolk, the Earl Marshal, and Lord Halifax, who is the High Steward of Westminster.

On right—

THE CEREMONY AT THE ROYAL EXCHANGE: This overhead view shows the dense throng of City workers which gathered in the heart of London to hear Clarenceux King of Arms making the Proclamation, following the Proclamations at Temple Bar (Norroy and Ulster King of Arms), Charing Cross (Lancaster Herald), and St. James's Palace (Garter King of Arms). The Royal Exchange is a peculiarly-fitting place for the inauguration of a new queenly reign, associated as it is with the names of two other Queens of England. Over the imposing frontage of the Exchange are inscribed the words: *Anno Elizabethae R XIII Conditum Anno Victoriae R VIII Restauratum.* The Aldermen, Sheriffs and Members of the Common Council of the City all assembled with the Lord Mayor on the steps of the Royal Exchange to hear the Proclamation.

THE QUEEN PROCLAIMED FROM THE ROYAL EXCHANGE—CLARENCEUX KING OF ARMS, SIR ARTHUR COCHRANE, READING THE PROCLAMATION FROM THE STEPS, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS FELLOW OFFICERS AT ARMS AND THE DIGNITARIES OF THE CITY OF LONDON: This was the fourth of the Proclamations by the Officers at Arms. In common with the others it ended with the words "God Save the Queen," Clarenceux raising his voice to declaim the final words. The music of trumpets again filled the air and, after a pause, the National Anthem was played by the regimental band of the Welsh Guards. When the last notes died away the Union flags were hoisted to the mast-tops on all buildings to proclaim a moment of rejoicing amid the solemn days of mourning. The ceremony at the Royal Exchange ended with the Lord Mayor of London calling for three cheers for her Majesty, and, with one accord, the multitudes in the streets and the office-workers by windows and balconies raised their voices to acclaim Queen Elizabeth II.

THE PROCLAMATIONS IN SCOTLAND

The Lord Lyon King of Arms at Edinburgh's Mercat Cross; The Ceremony at Holyroodhouse

QUEEN ELIZABETH IS PROCLAIMED IN THE CAPITAL CITY OF HER ANCIENT KINGDOM OF SCOTLAND: This was the scene at the Mercat Cross of Edinburgh as the Lord Lyon King of Arms, Sir Thomas Innes of Learney, read the Proclamation of the Queen's accession. On his left is the Sheriff of the Lothians and Peebles (Mr. James Gilchrist). Twice the Proclamation was read at the Mercat Cross, and then once each at the Castle, the Palace of Holyroodhouse and the Pier and Shore of Leith. The first reading at the Mercat Cross was by the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, and the second reading by the Lord Lyon King of Arms, who explained that he did so to the "lieges of Scotland" and, at the desire of the Sheriff, to the inhabitants of the Lothians and Peebles. The Lord Lyon in sonorous tones then proclaimed the style and titles of the Queen.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE QUEEN'S ACCESSION WAS READ IN EDINBURGH FOR THE FOURTH TIME AT THE PALACE OF HOLYROODHOUSE: Standing before the guard of honour of the 69th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, the Marchmont Herald, flanked by the other Officers of Arms, read the Proclamation. After the reading the band of the 1st Battalion of the Seaforth Highlanders played the National Anthem, and a fanfare was sounded by the State trumpeters.

AT LINLITHGOW: The Proclamation read to the crowds by Provost Lamb from the balcony of the Council Chambers at Linlithgow Cross.

AT PAISLEY: The Proclamation being read by Provost Stewart Black. Inverness, Perth and Aberdeen were other centres where the Proclamation was read with due ceremonial.

AMONGST THE REST OF THE WORLD'S NEWS

Winter Scenes from Wales and Westmorland; the 1952 Cruft's Dog Show; the Indian Finance Minister Visits London; a Freighter Fast on the Cornish Rocks

WELSH SHEEP SHELTER FROM THE MOORLAND SNOWS: These are some of the sheep reared by Captain J. Oliver Burton, of Broadleys, Denbigh, on his two moorland farms, Ty Isa and Tai Pella, at Hafod Elwy, Bylchau, Denbigh. They are being fed on hay in a sheltered yard.

A GENERAL VIEW OF THE GRAND HALL, OLYMPIA, ON THE SECOND DAY OF THE 1952 CRUFT'S DOG SHOW: In the foreground some of the many cocker spaniel entries are waiting to be judged. There were 12,448 entries in this year's show—a world record, the previous best being that for Cruft's Dog Show of 1950, when there were 12,319. 1952 is the centenary of the birth of Charles Cruft, whose interest in dogs started when, as a shop-boy, he joined James Spratt in Spratt's new venture of selling dog-cakes from his shop in High Holborn, London.

On left—

A BRITISH RAILWAYS' EXPRESS STEAMS THROUGH SNOWBOUND BRITAIN: This picture shows the Birmingham-to-Glasgow express trailing a ribbon of steam and smoke as it races along the snow-covered Shap Fells in Westmorland. Above, the bleak hills are blanketed in smooth, unblemished layers of deep snow.

Below—

RELENTLESS SEAS ON THE CORNISH COAST POUND ANOTHER VICTIM: This is the Liberian cargo-vessel *Liberty*, which ran aground near Land's End during a heavy storm last month. A breeches buoy apparatus was used in the rescue of her crew of thirty-eight. The *Liberty*, of 5,250 tons, is owned by the Cia Maritima International. Still fast on the rocks, she was being battered by successive winter storms.

THE FINANCE MINISTER OF THE CENTRAL INDIAN GOVERNMENT VISITS LONDON: Mr. Chintaman Deshmukh, the Indian Finance Minister (left), with Dr. S. Radhakrishnan (centre), the Indian Ambassador to the U.S.S.R., and Mr. V. K. Krishna Menon, the Indian High Commissioner in London, seen at London Airport during the Minister's recent visit to London. Because of the Indian general elections, Mr. Deshmukh was unable to attend the recent Finance Minister's Conference, his place being taken by the High Commissioner. Later, however, Mr. Deshmukh came to London and met the Chancellor of the Exchequer to clear up outstanding points concerning the conference.

Amongst the Rest of the World's News

EVENTS ABROAD

CHIANG AND HIS ALLIES PARLEY IN FORMOSA, THE LAST BASTION OF CHINESE NATIONALISM: In this picture Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek is seen (left) at his headquarters during a meeting with American military collaborators. Reading from Chiang's left they are General Pai Chung-Hsi, the former Nationalist commander in Central China, Major-General Robert S. Beightler, the commander of the United States forces in Okinawa, Major-General S. Stearly, commanding the 20th Air Force, Major-General William Chase, commanding the U.S. Military Mission in Formosa, and General Chi Jou, Chiang's Chief-of-Staff. Of recent months large quantities of American arms have poured into Formosa.

A TEEN-AGE TUMULT IN PANAMA CITY: Mounted Panama city policemen seen with drawn swords as they broke up a student demonstration which later flared into serious rioting. Thousands of young students massed in the city to demand the revocation of an order closing the school year on the usual date. The students, it seems, wanted more time to prepare for their final examinations after taking part in a seventy-seven-day strike. A report from Panama City that the Government had had to declare a state of siege was denied at the Presidencia. It is known, however, that considerable damage was done.

A MASKED WITNESS GOES BEFORE THE SPECIAL HOUSE COMMITTEE IN WASHINGTON: This former Polish soldier described to the Committee the killing of Polish officers by the Red Army in the Second World War. He said in the course of his evidence that he actually saw 200 Polish Army officers massacred in the Katyn Forest, near Smolensk, one night in October 1939. Through an interpreter the hooded man told under oath of watching the mass killing from a tree with two companions, one a Catholic priest. They had just escaped from another Soviet prison camp in the area, he said. The killings took place before a huge floodlighted excavation 100 yards away from his hiding-place. He said the officers were led to the pit in pairs, and their hands were then bound behind them with wire. Some were shot and some died of strangulation.

THE GREAT GARONNE FLOODS—THE INUNDATED EMBANKMENT NEAR MARMANDE DURING THE HEIGHT OF THE FLOODING IN SOUTH-WESTERN FRANCE: Highways and railways were cut off by the rising waters in the region of Toulouse. By last week-end the river had reverted to its course at Toulouse, leaving the banks lined with masses of debris, including uprooted trees. The streets in low-lying parts of the town were buried beneath a foot or more of mud, and many buildings were made unsafe through the seepage of water into the foundations. In Toulouse alone, and excluding the hundreds of acres of farmland which were under water, the damage was estimated at £1,000,000. The 800 inhabitants of Marmande took refuge on the upper floors of houses. Some of them had to exist for five days before receiving supplies of food by boat.

THE WOULD-BE ICARUS OF WEST BERLIN: For centuries men have been trying to emulate birds in their ability to fly through the air, using wings. The latest man to fail in this direction is Herbert Herbst, a thirty-nine-year-old unemployed Berlin technician, who took his complicated and fascinating wings to the sand-hills in Frohnau (in Berlin's French Sector), and to the delight of all attempted to defy the age-old laws of gravity. He is seen in the picture above when running with his apparatus, and (on right) after the failure of his attempt to become airborne. His apparatus ("the work of several years of tests and experiments," says Herbert) consists of two wings made from parachute silk supported by bamboo props. Each of the wings has a handle which he grabs to move the wings up and down. A silk tail, also supported by bamboo props, serves as a steering device, which is controlled with the aid of a footboard connected with the tail and fastened on the wings. The apparatus weighs 40 lb.

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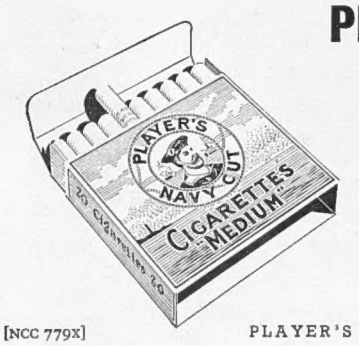

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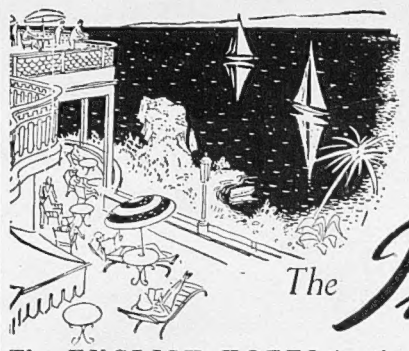

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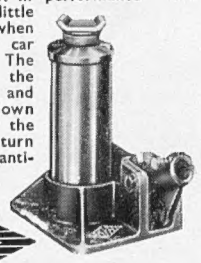

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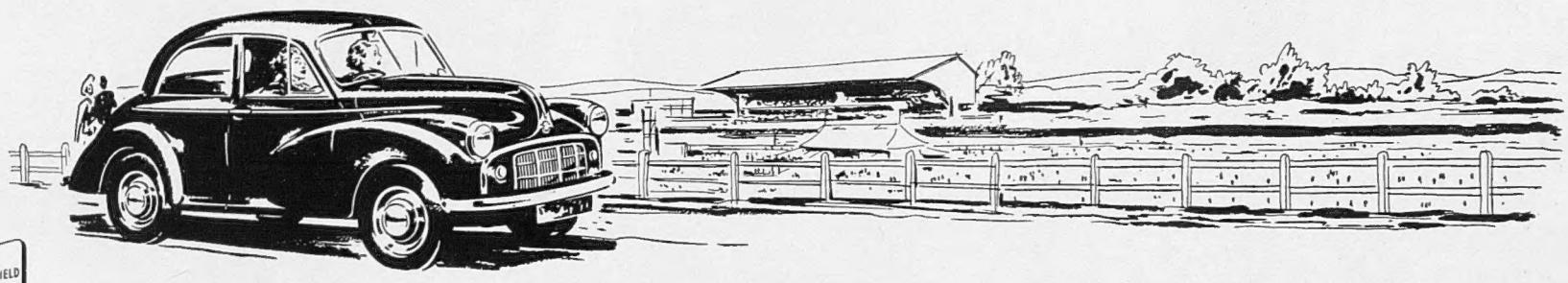

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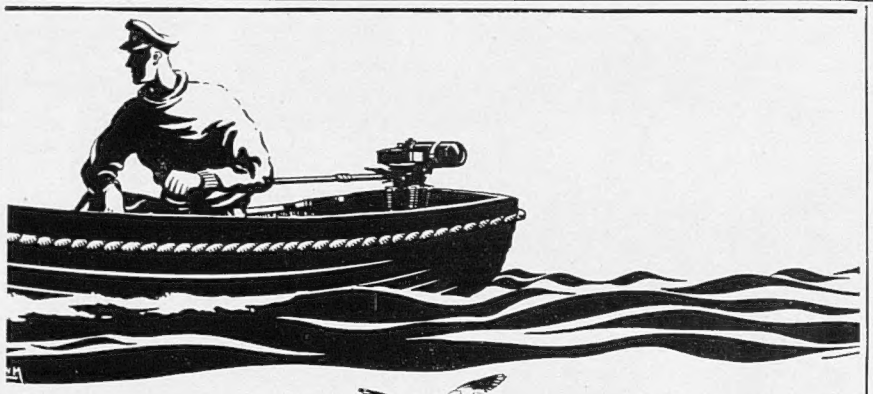

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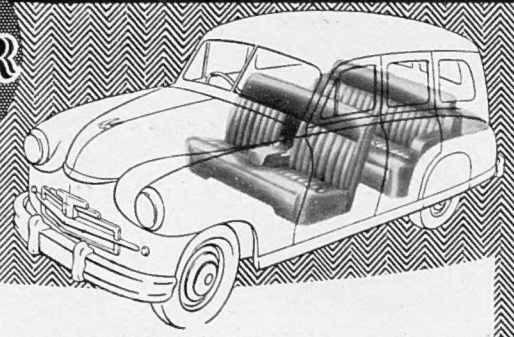

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